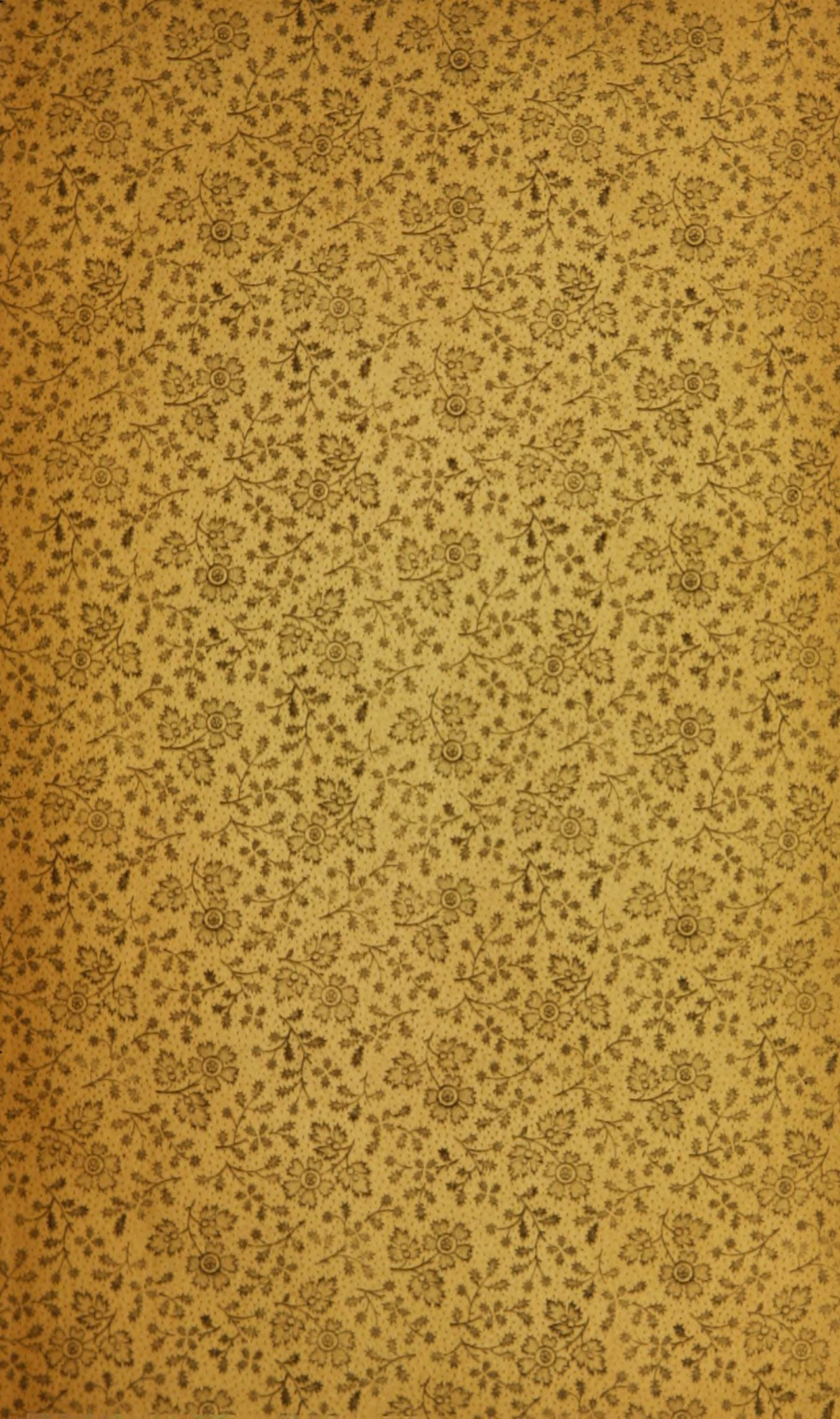


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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
PRESIDENT AND FELLOWS
OF THE
CONNECTICUT MEDICAL SOCIETY,
IN CONVENTION,
MAY, 1837:
WITH A LIST OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY.

NEW HAVEN:
PRINTED BY B. L. HAMLEN.
1837.

At the Annual Convention of the President and Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society, held at Hartford, May 10th and 11th, 1837.

The President took the chair; and the Secretary exhibited certificates of the election of *FELLOWS*, as follows, viz.

Hartford County.

David S. Dodge, M. D.
Samuel Ives.
Ralph Carter.
Henry Holmes, M. D.
Eul Loomis.

New Haven County.

Reynold Webb, M. D.
Henry Bronson, M. D.
Josiah M. Collins.
Nathan B. Ives, M. D.
John H. Kain, M. D.

New London County.

John O. Miner, M. D.
Avery Dwyer, M. D.
James Rogers.
William Hyde, M. D.
Dyer T. Beaman, M. D.

Fairfield County.

*Jeremiah T. Denison, M. D.
Ezra P. Bennett, M. D.
Elijah B. Middlebrook, M. D.
Rufus Blakeman, M. D.
John Judson, M. D.

Windham County.

Andrew Harris, M. D.
Daniel A. Hovey.
William Witter, M. D.
Orin Witter.
John H. Simmons, M. D.

Litchfield County.

Norman Lyman, M. D.
Josiah G. Beckwith, M. D.
Luther Ticknor, M. D.
*Johnson C. Hatch, M. D.
Garnahel H. St. John.

Middlesex County.

Charles Woodward.
Thomas Miner, 2d, M. D.
Am M. Holt, M. D.

Tolland County.

Alvan Talcott, M. D.
William H. Richardson, M. D.
*Oliver K. Isham, M. D.

The President, Thomas Miner, M. D., delivered an Address.

Dr. Miner having declared a re-election as President, the officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows, viz.

SILAS FULLER, M. D. *President.*
ELIJAH MIDDLEBROOK, M. D. *Vice President.*
LUTHER TICKNOR, M. D. *Treasurer.*
CHARLES HOOKER, M. D. *Secretary.*

STANDING COMMITTEES.

SILAS FULLER, M. D. <i>et officio</i> .	} <i>Committee of Examination.</i>
THOMAS MINER, M. D.	
LUTHER TICKNOR, M. D.	
DEEN T. BRAINARD, M. D.	
EARL SWEET, M. D.	
DAVID S. DODGE, M. D.	
JOSSEPH PALMER, M. D.	} <i>Committee to nominate Professors in the Medical Institution.</i>
WILLIAM S. PIERSON, M. D.	
ANDREW HARRIS, M. D.	
STURGES BULKLEY,	
ISAAC GOODSELL, M. D.	
THOMAS HUBBARD, M. D.	} <i>Committee to nominate Physician of the Retreat for the Insane.</i>
ELI IVES, M. D.	
JOHN S. PETERS, M. D.	
WILLIAM BUEL, M. D.	
THOMAS MISH, M. D.	

1. *Resolved*, That the thanks of the Society be given to our late President, for his address made to this Convention, and that the address be published and distributed to the members of the Society, and to the members of the General Assembly.

2. *Resolved*, That a committee of one from a county be appointed to take into consideration the citation from the General Assembly to the Medical Society, and to report thereon. *Committee*—Drs. H. Holmes, H. Bronson, D. T. Brainard, R. Blakeman, A. Harris, J. G. Beckwith, C. Woodward and A. Talcott.

Drs. D. S. Dodge, E. P. Bennett and N. Lyman were appointed a committee to audit the Treasurer's account, and to report such charges as are not collectible.

The report made by this committee was accepted; the Treasurer's report was approved, and it was voted to strike certain accounts, deemed not collectible, from the Treasurer's book.

A communication was received from a committee of the Directors of the Retreat for the Insane, with a copy of a memorial to the General Assembly petitioning for an appropriation to provide an asylum for the insane poor in this state.

3. *Resolved*, That the communication from the committee of the Directors of the Retreat for the Insane, be referred to a committee

I one from a county. Committee—Drs. R. Carter, N. B. Ives, L. O. Miser, J. Judson, O. Witter, L. Ticknor, C. Woodward and W. H. Richardson.

4. *Resolved*, That a committee of one from a county be appointed on the subject of Honorary Degrees, Honorary Membership, and gratuitous students. Committee—Drs. A. Donner, D. S. Dodge, R. Webb, E. B. Middlebrook, J. H. Simmons, G. H. St. John, T. Miner, M. and A. Talcott.

The committee on the third resolution having reported, it was

5. *Resolved*, That this convention approve of the object of the memorial of the Directors of the Retreat for the Insane, to the General Assembly, in regard to the indigent insane in this state.

6. *Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to examine an apparatus for fractured limbs, submitted to this convention by Dr. Andrew Harris of Canterbury. Committee—Drs. D. T. Brainard, H. Bronson and J. H. Kain.

The committee on the fourth resolution made report.

Drs. JAMES ROGERS, of Waterford, and CHARLES WOODWARD, of Middletown, were recommended to the President and Fellows of Yale College, as candidates for the Honorary Degree of Doctor in Medicine.

JOHN STEARNS, M. D. of the city of New York, formerly President of the Medical Society of that State, was elected an Honorary Member.

The students recommended by the several county meetings, to attend gratuitously the ensuing course of lectures in the Medical Institution of Yale College, are Otis D. Goodrich, New Haven; Benjamin F. Smith, New London; Hanford N. Bennett, Fairfield; Ebenezer B. Allen, Windham; and Ebenezer C. Smith, Litchfield. The three vacancies were filled by designating Sylvanus Stuart, Lucius N. Beardsley and William Call.

Drs. E. Loomis and J. G. Beckwith were appointed a committee on debaters.

7. *Resolved*, That an extra copy of the Proceedings be sent each year to the several clerks, for the use of the county meetings.

8. *Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to revise the By-Laws of the Society, and report thereon to the next Convention. Committee—Drs. E. Middlebrook and C. Hooker.

9. *Resolved*, That the thanks of the Convention be tendered to our late President, THOMAS MIXER, M. D. for the upright and able manner in which he has performed the duties of his office.

10. *Resolved*, That the President of the Society be requested hereafter to favor the Society with an address at each annual convention.

The committee on the second resolution made a report, recommending the appointment of a committee to meet with the committee of the General Assembly on the subject of the repeal of the 8th section of the "Act to incorporate the Connecticut Medical Society," and to express the views of the Convention that the proposed repeal would be inexpedient: and farther recommending the procuring of copies of "a Report of the New Haven County Medical Society," for distribution, as embodying the views of the Connecticut Medical Society on this subject.

The report was accepted, and a committee appointed accordingly, viz. Drs. S. Fuller, G. Sumner, A. Brigham, H. Holmes and C. Woodward.

11. *Resolved*, That this Convention authorize the procuring of copies of the "Report of the New Haven County Medical Society," sufficient for distribution to the members of the General Assembly and to the members of this Society.

Dr. Archibald Welch read a dissertation on "Scarlet Fever."

12. *Resolved*, That the thanks of the Convention be tendered to Dr. Welch for his dissertation, and that a copy be requested to be placed on file.

Drs. N. Lyman, N. B. Ives and D. T. Beazard were appointed a committee to nominate a dissertator for the next Convention. This committee nominated Dr. Isaac G. Porter, of New London, who was appointed accordingly.

The committee on the sixth resolution made a report, explaining some of the advantages of Dr. Harris's apparatus for the treatment of fractures; and in pursuance of a recommendation of this committee it was

13. *Resolved*, That Dr. Andrew Harris be requested to give a dissertation at the next annual convention, on the treatment of fractures and the application of his metallic splints.

At the request of the Convention, Dr. Harris briefly explained the application of the apparatus by him exhibited.

14. *Resolved*, That the thanks of the Convention be given to Dr. Harris for the exhibition and explanation by him made to this Convention, and that he be requested to make such arrangements that practitioners may supply themselves with his splints.

15. *Resolved*, That a tax be laid of one dollar on each member of the Society.

The committee on debentures reported a bill, which was accepted and ordered to be paid.

Adjourned sine die.

Attest,

CHARLES HOOKER, *Secretary*.

MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

*FELIX PASCALIS,	<i>New York.</i>
JAMES JACKSON,	<i>Boston, Mass.</i>
JOHN C. WARREN,	"
*SAMUEL LATHAM MITCHELL,	<i>New York.</i>
*DAVID HOSACK,	"
*WRIGHT POST,	"
BENJAMIN SELLIMAN,	<i>New Haven.</i>
GEORGE M'CLELLAN,	<i>Philadelphia, Pa.</i>
*JOHN MACKIE,	<i>Providence, R. I.</i>
CHARLES ELDREDGE,	<i>East Greenwich, R. I.</i>
THEODORE ROMKIN BECK,	<i>Albany, N. Y.</i>
JAMES THACHER,	<i>Plymouth, Mass.</i>
*JOSEPH WHITE,	<i>Cherry Valley, N. Y.</i>
WILLIAM P. DEWEES,	<i>Philadelphia, Pa.</i>
EDWARD DELAFIELD,	<i>New York.</i>
JOHN DELAMATER,	<i>Utica, N. Y.</i>
WALTER CHANNING,	<i>Boston, Mass.</i>
JACOB BIGELOW,	"
PHILIP SYNG PHYSOCK,	<i>Philadelphia, Pa.</i>
*LEWIS HEERMANN,	<i>U. S. Navy.</i>
DANIEL DRAKE,	<i>Cincinnati, Ohio.</i>
HENRY MITCHELL,	<i>Norwich, N. Y.</i>
NATHAN RENO SMITH,	<i>Baltimore, Md.</i>
VALENTINE MOTT,	<i>New York.</i>
SAMUEL WHITE,	<i>Hudson, N. Y.</i>
REUBEN D. MURRAY,	<i>Hanover, N. H.</i>
WILLIAM TULAN,	<i>New Haven.</i>
RICHMOND BROWNELL,	<i>Providence, R. I.</i>
WILLIAM BEAUMONT,	<i>U. S. Army.</i>
SAMUEL HENRY DICKSON,	<i>Charleston, S. C.</i>
SAMUEL BAYARD WOODWARD,	<i>Worcester, Mass.</i>
JOHN STEARNS,	<i>New York.</i>

ORDINARY MEMBERS.

The names of those members who are exempt from taxation by age are in *Italics*.
The names of those who have been Presidents of the Society are in *Capital*.

HARTFORD COUNTY.

SILAS PILLER, M. D. *Hartford, Chairman.*

ANDREW WALLIS, M. D. *Watertown, Clerk.*

HARTFORD, SILAS PILLER, *Spencer*
Hills, Frank Morgan, George
Samuel, John L. Cannon, Milo L.
Noyes, Henry Holmes, Wm. H. Mo-
gan, Amosk Brigham, Edward P.
Terry, David S. Dodge, George O.
Bennett, John D. Bates, Edward Bruce,
James Burdick, Saml. B. Brewster,
Geo. B. Hawley, Edward Bowland.
Hartford, Henry B. Porter.
Ayer, Alfred Kellogg.
Barnes, Harriet Gridley, Sylvester
Hulley.
New Britain, Samuel Hall, James
Hawland.
Bloomfield, Daniel H. Hubbard.
Bristol, J. W. Pardee, E. T. Merriam.
Burlington, Edward Fields.
Canter, O. B. Freeman.
Colchester, Benjamin Wood.
East Hartford, Parson Rowland.
East Windsor, Eliot F. Root, Hiram
Gillet.
Kitt Mill, Hiram Watson.
Marble Point, James H. Morton.

Enfield, J. P. Converse, Edw. Loomis.
Farmington, Amos Thompson, E. W.
Carrington, Chas. Bowen.
Glastenbury, Ralph Carter.
North Glastenbury, Daniel Holt.
Eastbury, Sabie Stocking.
Glastenbury, James Case.
East Glastenbury, Chester Hamlin.
West Glastenbury, J. D. Wilson.
Hartland, Josiah C. Bunting.
West Hartford, Wm. H. Higgins.
Middletown, Wm. C. Williams.
Middletown, L. W. Melanck.
Somers, Augustus R. Case.
Therford, George W. Sandford.
Surrey, James S. Barnes.
Surrey, Asaph L. Bisset, Samuel
Ives, David Phelps.
Watertown, Amosk Welch,
Kramer F. Cooke, Asaph Robinson,
— Russell.
Rock Hill, David Fuller.
Windsor, Wm. S. Norton, Theodore
Sill.
Yapewick, Eliza G. Marshall.

NEW HAVEN COUNTY.

REYNOLD WOOD, M. D. *Milford, Chairman.*

E. B. BAKER, M. D. *New Haven, Clerk.*

New Haven, Ada Slower, *TYMOTHY*
WHEELER, Eli Ives, Wm. Tully.
Timothy P. Beers, Jonathan Knight,
Samuel Ponderson, Virgil M. Dow,
Alfred S. Morton, John H. Kahn,
Charles Hooker, Josiah P. Hunt,
Nathan H. Jew, E. H. Bishop, Jos. B.
Baker, Wm. T. Foster, Henry A.
Tanderson, Daniel H. Moore, John
B. Robertson, John Augustus Tutten,
M. D. Beaudet, John L. Saffron,
Saml. P. Clarke, Nathan C. Ballwin,
Thos. Henry Tutten.
Fair Haven, Charles S. Thompson.
Westport, Phineas T. Miller.
Barnston, W. A. Lay, W. O. Loomis.
Canterbury, James L. Field, Am. J.
Driggs.
Dover, Isaac Jennings, Abner Stead-
ford, D.

Birmingham, Andrew Beardsley.
Bloomfield, Abner Steadford, Saml.
— C. Johnson, — Kendall.
East Haven, Ada Ponderson.
Fair Haven, Lester Kerp.
Glastenbury, Amos Foster, Joel Canfield,
Eliza Buckland.
Hartford, Chas. B. Frost.
Middletown, Reynolds Welch.
Middletown, Wm. W. Windham, Arza An-
drews.
Middletown, Jacob Linsley.
Milford, Andrew French, Hal Allen,
Joseph Tunderson.
Natick, John D. Myers, Lucius
Spencer.
New Britain, Sheldon Beardsley.
New Haven, Amos Moody.
Oxford, Josiah M. Colburn.
Oxford, Nath. Sweet, Thos. A. Brown.

FRISVOLD, Anna Anna.
 SOREMBY, Anthony B. Esq.
 South Bristol, John M. Southrop.
 WALLINGFORD, Leman Parker, Friend
 Cook, Benjamin P. Harrison.

WATERBURY, Edward Field, Joseph Per-
 ict, Henry Eames, David Prockard.
 WOODMAN, Isaac Goodell, Andrew
 Castle.
 WOLCOTT, Henry Byington.

NEW LONDON COUNTY.

John O. Moore, M. D. Groton, Chairman.

Amos P. Perkins, M. D. Waterford, Clerk.

NEW LONDON, Eliza North, Thomas
 Carl, Archibald Meyer, Dyer T.
 Brainerd, Nelson T. Perkins, James
 Morgan, Isaac G. Porter.
 BARNES, Samuel Johnson.
 COUCHMAN, JOHN H. HATHOUS,
 Lucius Parsons, Frederick Morgan.
 FRANKLIN, Amiel Woodward.
 GERRARD, William W. Miner.
 JACOB CITY, Lucius Tyler, John C. Tib-
 betts.
 GROTON, John O. Moore, Benjamin P.
 Stoddard, Joseph Darter.
 LEBANON, Joseph Comstock, Ernest Os-
 good.
 LEAVAN, Robert A. Manwaring (Gale's
 Ferry).
 LEMAN, Vane Smith.

LYME, John L. Smith, Richard Noyes,
 J. C. M. Brockway.
 MONTVILLY, Ephraim Fallow, Henry
 C. Beardsley.
 NORTH BROOKFIELD, Thos. P. Watlin.
 NORWICH, Philiman Young, John Ther-
 mer, Richard P. Tracy, Ralph Farn-
 worth, Wallington Hooker, Eliph
 Dyer, Joseph Peabody, Jeremiah Pea-
 body.
 EASTO, ——— Phiney.
 PATERSON, Avery Dummer, Elmer B.
 Downing.
 SALEM, Warren Morgan.
 STANTON, William Robinson, Wil-
 iam Hyde, Mass. Manning, George
 E. Palmer, William Hyde, Jr.
 WATERBURY, James Rogers.
 RIVER HILL, Amos P. Perkins.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY.

ELMER MIDDLEBROOK, M. D. Trumbull, Chairman.

STURGES BULLER, Mayor, Clerk.

FAIRFIELD, Jeremiah T. Denison, —
 Ten Rivers.
 GREENFIELD, Rufus Elaviana.
 SHELTER, Justin Sherwood.
 BIRMINGHAM, Samuel Sams, David H.
 Nash, Samuel Brack.
 BROOKFIELD, Nels A. Lucy, A. L. Wil-
 liams, Edwin Lacey.
 DUNSTON, Daniel Comstock, Royal Bat-
 ton, Alexander Smith.
 AYER, E. P. Brown.
 DUNSTON, Warren Pomeroy.
 GERRARD, Barlow P. White, Darin
 Mead.
 HENTON, James H. Shelton.
 MOUNT, Sturges Bulkeley, Salmon H.
 Hall.
 NEW CANAAN, Samuel S. Noyes, Lewis
 Richards.

NEW FAIRFIELD, Isaac Knapp, Samuel
 T. Barker.
 NEWTON, Gideon Shepard, John Jai-
 son, Cyrenus H. Bush.
 NORWICH, John A. McLenn, —
 Wheeler, ——— Broell.
 RICHMOND, Charles Cochran.
 ROXBURY, Nehemiah Perry.
 SAGHAM, Daniel W. Northrop.
 STANTON, Chimney Ayres.
 NORTH STANTON, Nathaniel D. Haight.
 STANTON, William T. Shelton, John
 Gooding.
 TRUMBULL, Eliph Middlebrook, Stephen
 Middlebrook, George Dyer, E. H.
 Middlebrook.
 WATSON, Lloyd Seely, James Baldwin.
 WATSON, George Blackman.
 WATSON, David Willard, Sylvester
 May.

WINDHAM COUNTY.

Asaiah Harris, M. D. Canterbury, Chairman.

William HITCHCOCK, M. D. Brooklyn, Clerk.

AARON, Jos. Palmer, David Holmes,
 John H. Simmons, William S. Pres-
 ton, Jos. Palmer, Jr.
 BARNES, Thomas Harrington, Wm.
 HITCHCOCK, Benjamin B. Spalding.
 CANTONMENT, Elijah Baldwin, Andrew
 Harris, Isaac Clark, Daniel Morgan.
 CHAMBERLAIN, Oren Wither.
 HARRISON, William A. Brewster, Dyer
 & Hughes.
 KILLBUCK, Pease, Malcomb, Justin
 Hammond, Daniel A. Henry, Wm.
 Grosvenor, David E. Hall, Gideon C.
 Soper.
 PLIMPTON, Josiah Palmer, Mary Ber-
 nard, William H. Cogswell, John G.
 Pierce.
 POWERS, Darius Bucklin, Hiram Hall,
 Yngé M. Palmer, Francis F. Wil-
 son.
 SPENCER, Wm. H. Campbell.
 THOMPSON, Horatio Halbrook, Samuel
 Brown, ——— Hough.
 VOLUNTEERS, Harvey Campbell.
 WINDHAM, Chester Hunt, Wm. Webb,
 Wm. Wither, Oliver Kingsley, Cal-
 via E. Eronley.
 WINDHAM, Lorenzo Marcy, Am Wither,
 Eleanor Litchfield, Maria Bird-
 sand.

LITCHFIELD COUNTY.

Samuel Burr, M. D. Litchfield, Chairman.

John G. BOWMAN, M. D. Litchfield, Clerk.

LITCHFIELD, WILLIAM BURL, Sam-
 uel Burr, Abner Allen, Josiah G.
 Beckwith.
 MILTON, Manly Peters, A. S. Lewis.
 SOUTH PLIMPTON, Gerry B. Miner.
 NORTHFIELD, D. B. W. Camp.
 HARRINGTON, Floyd H. Graham, Amos
 Beecher.
 BURLINGTON, Loomis North.
 CARLIS, Albert A. Wright.
 SOUTH GREEN, Lemuel S. Adams, John
 A. O'Brien.
 CANTONMENT, William Carrington, Geo.
 O. Jarvis.
 CANTONMENT, John Collins, Barnet B.
 North.
 GOSWICK, Samuel W. Gold.
 NORTH GREEN, Horace K. Beach.
 HARRINGTON, Andrew Abernethy, Gay-
 land Wells.
 KAY, Wm. Burdick, William Erwin.
 ELIAS DUBOIS.
 NEW HARRINGTON, Calvia Cooke, Ben-
 jamin Knapp.
 NEW MILTON, John Williams, Geo.
 Taylor, Wm. B. Lacey.
 GARDEN'S BRIDGE, Samuel H. St. John.
 NORRIS, Benjamin Webb, Benjamin
 Welch, Jr.
 PLIMPTON, William Woodruff, Samuel
 T. Salisbury.
 PLIMPTON, Chester J. Carrington.
 ROCKY, Myron Bowen.
 SALMON, Luther Tinkner.
 CHAPMANVILLE, Ovid Plumb.
 PLIMPTON, Henry Fish, William
 James Barry.
 BURLINGTON, Ralph Downing.
 ELIASVILLE, Elmore Everett.
 TOWNSEND, Ebenezer Hancock.
 TOWNSEND, E. D. Hudson.
 WARREN, Norman Lyman.
 WASHINGTON, Benja. M. Fowler.
 NEW PLIMPTON, Joshua C. Hatch, Jef-
 ferson Stone, Charles Vail.
 WASHINGTON, M. S. Woodward, John
 DeForest.
 WASHINGTON, James Welch.
 WOODBURY, Rowell Abernethy, Charles
 H. Webb, A. M. Healey.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY.

THOMAS MINER, M. D. Middletown, Chairman.

ISA HUTCHINSON, M. D. Bolton, Clerk.

MIDDLETOWN, THOMAS MINER.
 Richard Warner, Thomas Miner, 2d.
 Joseph Barnett, Charles Woodward,
 David Harrison, Samuel G. South-
 mayd, Elisha R. Nye.
 CHATHAM, Charles Smith, F. G. Edger-
 ton.
 CHATHAM, George H. Abernethy.
 DUNSTON, Erasmus D. North.

East HARTFORD, Amos M. Hall, Daniel
 Williams, Asa L. Spaulding.
 HARTFORD, Mrs. Hazekam, E. H. Curtis.
 KILLINGWORTH, Andrew Olson, John
 Talbot.
 SOUTHWICK, Amos H. King.
 East ALBANY, H. Hough, F. W. Shep-
 ard.

TOLLAND COUNTY.

JAMES L. WHITE, M. D. Bolton, Chairman.

ABRAHAM LADD, M. D. Tolland, Clerk.

TOLLAND, Abijah Ladd, Oliver K.
 Lathrop.
 BOLTON, James L. White, Jr., Ozzie Hunt,
 Samuel D. Carter, Jonas C. Main.
 COLUMBI, Warren A. Fuller.
 COVENTRY, Nathan Brown, E. Lester
 Hunt, Timothy Danahy.
 ELLINGTON, Allen Hyde, Herman Dow.
 HARTFORD, JOHN S. PETERS, Ozzie
 Wicks.

MANSFIELD, Earl Smith, Norman Big-
 gam, Wm. H. Richardson.
 SHARPTON, Joseph C. Dow, James Rod-
 gett, William N. Clegg.
 SHELTON, Horatio A. Hamilton, Oscar
 Wood.
 UNION, Elmer L. Lindsey.
 YANKEE, Anthony Binsley, Alvin
 Talbot.
 WALLINGTON, Allen Schmitt.

SCHEDULE OF ORDINARY REVENUES.

	Taxable	Not taxable	Total
Hartford,	59	5	64
New Haven,	67	3	70
New London,	27	10	47
Fairfield,	42	4	46
Windsor,	41	2	43
Litchfield,	54	5	59
Middlesex,	21	1	22
Tolland,	22	4	26
	340	34	374

AN
ADDRESS
TO THE
ANNUAL CONVENTION
OF THE
MEDICAL SOCIETY OF CONNECTICUT,
CONVENED AT HARTFORD,
MAY 10, 1837.

BY THOMAS MINER, M. D.

PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE CONVENTION.

NEW HAVEN,
PRINTED BY F. L. HARRIS,
1837.

ADDRESS.

CONVOCATION.—

I was not a member of the Medical Convention of 1832; consequently, when I learned the result of your proceedings, I was taken by surprise. I had no expectation of the appointment of Vice President, no one having previously suggested that I should be considered as a candidate, any more than I had of being promoted to the Presidency of Yale College, or of any other equally important institution. You have been pleased to favor me with your suffrages ever since, and when my very respectable predecessor resigned in 1834, you very courteously appointed me to take his place. You have also obligingly accepted my sincere, though very imperfect, endeavors to perform the duties of the office till this time. With the greatest sincerity, I am able to express my most hearty acknowledgments for all the favors and indulgence which I have received. I am happy to say, that during this intimate connection of the last five years, I am not sensible of a single circumstance, that has had a tendency to injure my feelings, with respect to my relation to the Society; and I should feel much grieved, were I conscious of any thing on my part which was intentional, that had a tendency to make an unfavorable impression, as to my conduct or motives. From the indulgence which you have so uniformly shown me, I have no reason to suspect any thing of the kind. It is with great satisfaction, therefore, that I am able to take my official leave of you, with such mutual cordiality. You will be so good as to consider me as being no longer a candidate for the office of President. The length of time in which I have served in this capacity, my feeble health, the superior age of other gentlemen who are much better fitted for the place, together with various considerations which it would be needless to mention, have conspired to bring me to this decision.

During the brief space which is allotted me for keeping the chair, and before proceeding to the choice of a successor, I must ask your indulgence to make a few hasty and desultory remarks.—It is hardly to be expected that the junior members of the Medical Society, which has been organized and incorporated about forty five years, can be familiar with its history, or without considerable enquiry, can be able exactly to appreciate most of the reasons, which existed at the time, for its formation. It is with great satisfaction, however, that I find two venerable seniors are members of this convention, who were in practice for some years before the organization of our body, and are living chronicles of the medical condition of this State, before the incorporation of our Society, and of the more important events connected with it, from its origin to the present day. In 1792, when the first

legislative act was passed in our favor, there were a few physicians of high eminence, whose talents had been developed by the Revolutionary war and other events of the day, distributed in perhaps every county of the State. In most of the towns, however, the great majority of the profession were at a very low ebb. All who chose to practice were legal physicians, however indifferent their qualifications. There were instances of men's setting themselves up for physicians, who had not pretended to study more than three months, and some of them had scarcely any other books than Bochan and a dispensatory. If possible, Surgery was generally in a worse state. We had three or four eminent operators, it is true, but it is probable that there were scarcely half a dozen in the whole commonwealth, who were prepared to meet any uncommon case. The department of Obstetrics was lower still, and though much of that business had fallen into the hands of the physicians, yet there was not probably a good practitioner to a county. Chemistry, Botany, and most of the auxiliary branches were hardly known by name, and had received scarcely any attention from more than three or four physicians in the State. The knowledge of morbid Anatomy was equally imperfect.

Further, there being no acknowledged rules of medical police, and of intercourse as respected each other, many of the physicians of that day were perfect Ishmaelites, constantly at variance among themselves, acting without concert, and feeling very little sense of the dignity as well as the importance of the profession. Even several of considerable standing did not blush to avow, that they had their secret nostrums, and openly to resort to the low arts of modern quackery.

This state of things called loudly for reform; and it was obvious that a reform could not be effected without union and concert among the physicians themselves. Nothing great and extensively good can ever be done in the world, without association, combination, and united effort. To this end, if the good is to be permanent, the associations must have a two-fold bearing; they must be both beneficial to the public, and to themselves. If they are not beneficial to the public, in free governments the public will not long tolerate them; and if they are not beneficial to the associations, the members will not long be at the trouble and expense of meeting. There is not, therefore, the slightest clashing between the public and all proper organized societies. Indeed, it is impossible to promote their mutual interest in any other way than by such organizations. These associations form one of the most prominent distinctions between civilization and barbarism, and no extensive improvement can be diffused without such institutions. It would be difficult to name any association of this State, or in any other civilized community, that has better answered its end of promoting the good of the public, and of its members, than the Medical Society of Connecticut.

Previous to 1792, the physicians of the county of New Haven had for many years been associated, and demonstrated the happy effects of mutual instruction, union, and friendly intercourse. The result was, that in that county there were probably many more able physicians than in any other, perhaps in all others, of the State. They early published a very respectable number of their transactions, which was not only read with avidity at home, but was received with high approbation in France and England. Here for a long time had been our best instructors, and among them probably Dr. Jared Potter, of Wallingford, was the most popular medical teacher of that day, having students resort to him from various parts of the State.

Dr. Potter was the last student of the Rev. Jared Elliot, a clergyman, philosopher and physician, who is justly considered to have been the father of regular practice in Connecticut. He resided in Killingworth, which was then in the county of New Haven; and his influence was long felt by his successors in that county, and its happy effects have reached down to our times.

With the bright example of the county of New Haven, the practitioners of the State in general soon saw the benefit of professional union, and in time organized themselves into the Medical Society. The effects of this society were quickly evident. The members either renounced or revealed their nostrums, cultivated a spirit of candor and frankness among each other, encouraged an attention to all modern improvements of medicine, and in a great measure banished quackery and mystery from the profession. It was difficult for a candidate for practice to find regular employ, unless he had been licensed by their body, as a guaranty of his qualifications. Their requirements were found to be so reasonable, and a refusal to submit to them was so sure a mark of irregularity, and a consciousness of disqualification, that after eight or ten years the legislature disowned all pretensions, by withholding from them the legal power of collecting their professional debts, unless they had been legally examined and approved.

Notwithstanding this last measure has operated in the most favorable manner, and by furnishing every town in the State with several well educated and honorable physicians, so that every empiric must come out boldly, and thus virtually be made to proclaim his own incompetency and imposition, as well as his dishonesty in pretending to an art for which he is unqualified, both the right and the policy of the law have often been questioned. With respect to the right, it seems to me strange that any man of information could doubt a moment. Legislators have certainly the right to interfere, whenever the public good is at stake; and it is their main business to protect individuals, where individuals have not the power to protect themselves. They protect from fraud and imposition, as well as from other injuries, by placing barriers against dishonesty. Thus, they either do, or may, direct the inspection of every kind of provision, lumber, or other article of merchandise, before it can be law-

fully exposed in market. They direct the examination of all officers of the army and navy, previous to their receiving commissions. In most countries, they examine the qualifications of gentlemen of the bar, to prevent clients from being imposed on by pettifoggers. They commonly insist upon the examination of teachers, before they can become lawful instructors. In most parts of the civilized world, even a common trade cannot be exercised, unless the master has complied with certain forms, which amount to a strict examination.

All these regulations are designed for the benefit of the people in general, and not directly for the benefit of the trades or professions. It is supposed that individuals could not have time, if they possessed sufficient knowledge, to examine the quality of every barrel of flour, beef, pork, and fish, that they buy, before purchasing them. Nor is it wished to have the client lose his suit, to discover that he has employed an incompetent advocate; or for schooling to be found to be worse than useless, from having employed an incompetent teacher.

I can see no reason, why the health of the community, and consequently public protection against ignorant and unprincipled pretenders—for pure quacks, whatever good qualities they may sometimes possess, from the very nature of the case must always be knaves, since they only flourish by the falsest pretensions and most barefaced impositions—are not a subject of legal regulation, as much as the army, navy, schools, trades, manufactures, and in a word every other matter, in which individuals are either unable or indisposed to protect themselves.

Besides, no power on earth can give a quack or other impostor a moral right to his fraudulent gains; should the State, therefore, from mistaken policy, legalize his claims, it would amount to granting a bounty to dishonesty, and as far as it goes would serve to sap the principles of morality. It is impossible to change the moral aspect of empiricism, or of any other fraud, whatever may be the supposed policy, as to legislative interference. A quack cannot be converted into an honest man, by any law whatever, much less can he be made learned against his will.

The matter of right, in my view, therefore, is set at rest. It is sometimes found, however, in this imperfect world, to be a matter of policy and expediency to waive many of our important rights, as the enforcing of these, as valuable as they may be, might be a greater inconvenience, than to justify the expense of their defence. It is even supposed advisable occasionally not to prosecute crimes of considerable magnitude. The principle rather applies to the cautious removal of old abuses, than to opening the door to new offenses. We may be in such haste in ripping off the superfluous lace, as to be in danger of tearing the coat. Upon this point of expediency, I frankly acknowledge, there has been, at times, a considerable variation in my own opinion. I shall not, therefore, pretend to speak very positively, upon this part of the subject, but content myself with making a few suggestions.

In the first place, our system has hitherto worked well, and to the great benefit of the public. has given the profession of medicine an elevated position, which it otherwise could have hardly reached. Notwithstanding every regulation, some unworthy officers are to be found in the army and navy; in the law, there are several who are little more than pretenders; and our schools are not always furnished with suitable teachers; but on the whole, all these departments have been improved, just in proportion as the laws have been strictly executed. The state of our profession is exactly parallel.

Quackery and false pretensions, in a great measure, are excluded from our body. In order to be a quack, a man must now openly avow himself to be one, before all the world. People, who are so ignorant or so gullible as to employ him, are not deceived by a hidden pitfall, but plunge into the gulf with their eyes open. It is a common idea. I well know, that quackery has much increased, of late years. This is very questionable, and on a fair consideration, most probably, will be found to be a mistake.

While human infidelity is the case as at present, there is always likely to be about the same proportion of attempts at imposition and deception. It only operates in different ways, and exhibits itself under various garb. Formerly, espionage, in a greater or less degree, tinged most of our physicians, and therefore, the counterfeit was often found in the same purse with the sterling coin. Now, though the wheat may not be entirely winnowed from the chaff, it is not noxious from being intermingled with tares. Each portion is by itself, and easily distinguished. Empiricism, therefore, makes a greater show, assumes a more formidable appearance, and seems to have much increased, though it may not be, by any means, more general or extensive, as respects numbers and limits. It is very possible, in reality, that it should increase in noise and impertinence, just in proportion to its ill success and want of employ. Chance of this kind is not rare in the world. Further, quackery has become organized; it has its associations, conventions, and secret unions, so as to be one of the most hideous and insipidant monopolies, which has ever appeared in civilized society. Who would have believed, that in the boasted light of the nineteenth century, a body of empirics, a monopoly that excludes and condemns all who are not initiated into its mysteries, and of course who are not as ignorant and dishonest as themselves, could have been organized upon the principles of ignorance, fraud, and imposture? That all the qualifications, which should be required to make a man fit to take charge of the health and life of his fellow creatures, consists in purchasing a book for twenty dollars, with an oath or promise of secrecy as to its contents? It is said, though I do not know upon what authority, that the price is now reduced, so that any one may become a physician, for the trifling sum of five dollars. Upon such a disgusting subject, as that of being obliged to defend learning and science, with the experience of ages, against the most palpable ignorance and imposture,

I can only remark, that it deserves the most serious consideration of the Society, as well as the wisdom of the legislature, to pause and think deliberately, before they adopt any measure, that may, directly or indirectly, be construed as favoring, or countenancing, or submitting to such absurd and dishonest claims. It would seem to be a very strange state of society, denoting a degree of ignorance equal to that of the dark ages, which should make it a matter of policy, to listen a moment to such groundless pretensions. A madman or a robber will naturally seize the first weapon, that lies in his way; but now, the question is, whether we shall legally put a sword into his hand? Enough of firebrands, arrows, and death will always be scattered about, to prove the imperfection of this state of trial and temptation; but, shall we give their diffusion the sanction of law? It has been supposed, that our present laws aid quackery, by producing a reaction in its favor. If this were the fact, quacks could never be so anxious to have this legislative assistance, though of the negative kind, removed, that they might appear to be regular practitioners. The very idea of having a body of professional men, as an essential link in the chain of civilized society, supposes that they have acquired some qualifications for their status, which citizens in general do not possess. It goes upon the principle of the subdivision of labor, and that no one man can know or do every thing. Modern quackery, as now organized, does away this all important principle, this only sure basis of all stable improvement, and pretends that without learning, discipline, or experience, any man may be fit to manage the most important concerns for the health and happiness of mankind; and that, because he has the audacity to make these pretensions, he is to be recommended to the world, and elevated to the high dignity of a professional station, by legislative enactment.

Medicine when regularly practiced is a liberal profession, in every sense of the term. No body of men among us, not even excepting the ministers of the gospel, do so much by way of charity, and relieve so much distress gratuitously, as the physicians, without any fee or reward, except the satisfaction which always attends the consciousness of doing our duty. This has respect to us in our individual capacities, as men and citizens.—The public efforts of the Medical Society of this state, considering the circumscribed limits for our exertion, have probably been as beneficial to the community, as those of any other association of the same means for operation. In conjunction with as prosperous a literary institution as any other in the Union, we have founded and sustained one of the most respectable and important medical schools in our country. The Retreat for the insane, which was in a sense founded by the genius and talents of our lamented associate, and former president, Dr. Todd, is perhaps inferior to no other hospital of the kind, and owes its origin entirely to the efforts of the Medical Society.

At this very day, by far the most important regular business of this convention, arises from our connexion with these institutions, in our appointment of committees of nomination for supplying vacancies, as well as the committee for the examination of the medical candidates. In fact, much the greater portion of the utility and respectability of this convention depends upon the judicious selection of their committees.

We are apt to overlook the importance and nature of the blessings which we enjoy, and to consider them as matters of course, without adverting to the causes, and to the uniring efforts of our predecessors, which were indispensable to putting things into such a favorable train. The difficulties which existed, and the obstacles which were surmounted, have long since disappeared, and consequently are hardly to be realized, by those who have but recently entered upon the stage of life.

Our society is undoubtedly still susceptible of many improvements, and we have never claimed an exemption from the common infirmities of humanity; but we have met the wants of the times, and have kept up with the spirit of the age, probably, in a much greater degree, than most similar associations. Ever since our first incorporation, the legislature has duly appreciated our importance, and has generally treated us with great courtesy and liberality.

As long as we do our duties as well as we have done, and continue to respect ourselves as well as the public, I can have no apprehension of any undue legislative interference. In order to merit respect, we must continue to make ourselves respectable, and thus show that we are worthy of the confidence and patronage of the public.

One part of the duty of professional men, and that by no means the least, is to instruct and inform the public mind. Professional men are a kind of missionaries in the civilized world. In the division of labor, not for their own benefit, but for the public good, they are the great teachers of mankind. It is the practice of all legislative bodies occasionally to consult them, and it is just as necessary to obtain the opinions of physicians, before making laws for preserving health, as it is to advise with merchants, manufacturers, and mechanics, concerning their several departments. It devolves upon our profession to teach the public the nature of quackery, and to expose the absurdities and dishonesty of empiricism. This duty is now peculiarly incumbent upon us.

At the present day, and in accordance with the spirit and improvements of the age, additional skill, learning, and industry are demanded, in every lawful and useful pursuit. The superior cultivation of our age requires increased dexterity in every mechanical and liberal art. Is it possible, that medicine alone can be an exception, and that physicians may be formed, without the labor of a severe course of study, strict mental discipline, and persevering industry? Can a man acquire a single art, science, profession,

employment, or trade of any kind of importance, in the short time, and with the slender means, that are required to make a proficient in modern quackery, so as justly to entitle him to the honors and emoluments of a master in his department?

Where is the policy of attempting to place ignorance and fraud upon the same legal level, with knowledge and skill? The danger, however, is not so much from elevating quackery, for that can never be raised to dignity, as it is from depressing and discouraging regular practice, so that men of talents may no longer have an inducement or encouragement for studying a degraded profession. At this very time, in those parts of the country, where medicine is depressed, men of talents are leaving the practice for more reputable employments.

Our society has always been distinguished by the harmony, order, and unity of its proceedings. We have hitherto kept aloof from most of the exciting and agitating topics of the day, and no religious, political, or local party, has as yet ever been allowed to show its head, or to exert its unhalloved influence, in our favored association. We have strictly adhered to the purposes for which we were organized and incorporated—the improvement of Medicine within our State. We do not meet, merely to force our own private views, and to consult our individual, personal interest, but for the benefit of the community, in aid of the cause of humanity, to contrive means to mitigate the pains and diseases of mankind. We are in a very high and important sense, officers, appointed and commissioned under the authority of the State, to take charge of the health of its citizens. The trust which has thus, by public authority, been reposed in us, is one of the highest importance and greatest responsibility.

In all our deliberations and debates, it becomes us to act with coolness and calmness, free from any falterable, temporary, or local excitement, without indulging that appeal to passion and prejudice, often resorted to in popular harangues. Here, the understanding alone need be addressed, and rhetorical flourishes are worse than useless. We ought to consider ourselves, rather as addressing a dignified and learned court, who perhaps understand the subject better than we do as individuals, instead of having recourse to artifices which might captivate a popular jury. Our acts have not respect to the present time merely, but may produce an effect upon our remotest successors. It is nearly impossible to resume a right, which has been once waived or relinquished.

I have one further suggestion, which I wish it were in my power to enforce upon all deliberative bodies, that would maintain harmony and good feeling. It is this, never to attempt to carry an important question, by forcing it through with a lean majority. When an important resolution, after much debate, only passes by a majority of one or two, at a very general rule, some cool and moderate man, who voted in its favor, would do well to show magnanimity enough to rise and propose a reconsideration, exhibiting by this means, that

he is not so sanguine in his private opinion, as to wish to wound the feelings of a respectable minority.

Some consideration of this kind, when agitating questions happen to occur, is the only way to preserve peace, and to prevent the body from being split into hostile parties, and becoming a prey to faction. A measure often may be very properly negatived by the majority of a single vote, or even by the casting vote of the presiding officer in case of a tie, and there may be no grounds for dissatisfaction; but the affirmative decision of an important question, where the best minds are apt to vary in opinion, is rarely satisfactory, popular, or expedient, unless it has the sanction of about two thirds of the members. A love for our profession, or rather for the humane objects which it has in view, should be the highest motive with every physician. It is in fact the highest motive with the great majority.

With some very few exceptions, owing to peculiar circumstances, physicians, in our country, are never to expect to become rich, from their practice. If they can only gain a respectable support, it is all for which they may indulge a reasonable hope. They do more gratuitous services, as has already been observed, than any other class of men; and where they are able to collect their pay, their remuneration is less, in proportion to their labors of body and mind, and the moral responsibility attached to them, than probably in any other employment in our country. The far greater portion of their reward must consist in the consciousness of doing good, and in the satisfaction which always attends the exercise of humane and benevolent feelings.

The preceding remarks have reached to a much greater length, than I had at first intended. I did not feel entitled to take my leave of such respectable associates, with whom I had spent so many pleasant days, and from whom I had so frequently received many unexpected and unmerited favors and attentions, by a mere brief and formal expression of my sense of obligation. I have therefore taken the liberty to trespass on your time, and perhaps your patience, by stating some of the views which I have of the past and the present state of the Medical Society, and of its vast importance, both to the public, and to the harmony and improvement of the profession.

The subject has grown upon me as I advanced, and brought it nearer to view. Indeed, till after some reflection and attentive investigation, I did not myself realize but a small portion of the public benefit of our association, or of the evils of the loose and imperfect state of medicine among us before it existed. I have to regret, that the narrow limits allotted me, together with my feeble abilities, only admit of pointing out a few of the more prominent landmarks, without attempting even to trace the outlines of this extensive field. I have mentioned but a small part of the advantages, which the community has derived from our Society; and still less have I ex-

posed the numerous and intermediable evils, that would be likely to result from the present attempts to reduce our profession back to the state in which it was fifty years ago, to degrade it to the level of the most ignorant empiricism, and thus place it half a century behind the age, should they prove successful in putting the regular practitioner and the empiric on the same legal footing. Whoever may be, in the eye of the law, our future condition, we can never remain respectable, and consequently highly useful as a profession, without retaining our fraternal union, demonstrating to the world that we fully merit all we claim, and adhering, as respects ourselves, to the fundamental principles of our organization.

I have now only to add, that your prosperity as individuals, and as one of the most important institutions in our State, will be always near my heart. So long as your deliberations are conducted upon the same principles of harmony, condescension, and concession, as have uniformly marked the proceedings of your predecessors, the Medical Society will justly retain its influence, and continue to be a blessing to the community.

By the favor of a kind Providence, although I have been visited with much sickness and many infirmities, so that I huddle down, in a sense, in middle life, my days have yet been spared, till I have become an elderly man. I have great respect for the labors and exertions of our predecessors, without wishing, however, to indulge that excessive veneration for the past, or extreme apprehension for the future, which is common with many old men. Nor am I insensible of the great value of the present, and of the superior means which we possess for preventing, removing, or mitigating the moral and physical evils, which are incident to humanity. I am not disposed, by any means, to consider that every thing, to be good, must have the sanction of antiquity. Every improvement is necessarily an innovation. Some changes must take place in accordance with the times, and new variations occasionally be introduced. Those upon the stage and in active life, must be the judges of the wants of their age. I have but little apprehension, therefore, that our successors will not be able to manage their affairs upon as correct principles, as those upon which our predecessors and we have founded and conducted our own institutions.

With these views, I cheerfully and confidently resign my small share in the direction of the Medical Society.

A REPORT
OF THE
NEW HAVEN COUNTY
MEDICAL SOCIETY,
ON THE
EXPEDIENCY OF REPEALING THAT SECTION
OF THE
MEDICAL LAWS
OF THIS STATE,
WHICH EXCLUDES IRREGULAR PRACTITIONERS FROM THE
BENEFITS OF LAW IN THE COLLECTION OF FEES.

NEW HAVEN:
PRINTED BY H. L. HAWLEN.
1837.

THE General Assembly of the State of Connecticut, at their session in May, 1836, received petitions from various parts of the State, praying for a repeal of the 8th section of the "act to incorporate the Connecticut Medical Society." By a vote of the General Assembly, these petitions were postponed to the next session of the Assembly, with an order for a citation to the Medical Society. In consequence of this citation, the Medical Society of New Haven County, at their annual meeting in April, 1837, adopted the following Report, as expressive of their views in regard to the expediency of the proposed measure.

REPORT.

THE Medical Laws in this State were enacted for a two-fold purpose. First, that our state might be furnished with an able and faithful medical faculty; and secondly, that the public might, as far as possible, be secured from medical imposture and the evils which flow from it. In pursuing these objects, the public good, rather than the benefit of a profession, was the end and aim. With the design of promoting these views, the following act has been admitted to a place in our statute-book. It is part of an act entitled "An Act in relation to the Medical Institution of Yale College."

"Every medical student, shall be required to attend to the study of physic and surgery, for two years, with some medical or surgical professor or practitioner, who is in respectable standing, *Provided*, he shall have been graduated at some college; otherwise to study three years; to have acquired in addition to a good English education, a competent knowledge of the Latin language, and of the principles of Natural Philosophy; to have arrived at the age of twenty one years; to be of a good moral character; and to deliver to the committee of examination a satisfactory dissertation upon some subject in medicine or surgery, or the auxiliary branches. And every medical student shall attend one course of the lectures under the professors of the Medical Institution of Yale College, or of some other public medical institution, previously to his being admitted to an examination for a license."

In furtherance of these same views, the following provision, contained in an act entitled "An Act to incorporate the Connecticut Medical Society," has been made. "No physician or surgeon, who shall have commenced practice since the year one thousand eight hundred, or who shall hereafter commence practice, shall be entitled by law to recover any debt or fees for such practice, unless he shall have been duly licensed by some medical society, or college of physicians, and all persons licensed to practice physic and surgery, and practicing within this state, shall of course be members of the Medical Society."

That portion of an act last quoted is the "8th section," which it is proposed to repeal. It will be observed that it has (and was designed to have) the force and effect of a penalty for not complying with the conditions contained in that other act which, in these pages, precedes it. Without it, the law which makes a course of study necessary to the practitioner of physic is, of course, inoperative as a law; for a law which may be violated with impunity, is a law without a penalty, or more properly, no law at all.

It surely will be conceded that the public have a real interest in the character and qualifications of medical men—the acknowledged guardians of life and health. Their near relation to the very sources of happiness and well-being has induced the civilized governments of every age and country to make regulations and adopt measures calculated to render them the more worthy the high trust confided to them.

That a successful practitioner of physic must be well acquainted with the principles of his art; that these principles are not to be learned in a day; and that the prescribed course of medical study in this state is not unnecessarily long, are truths which, in other circumstances, we might feel ashamed to argue. These truths we should ordinarily deem it necessary but to state; but the attempts which are now making to conceal or forget them, render it necessary, or at least, proper, that we cite *proof*.

There is not, within the range of our knowledge, a more complicated piece of mechanism than the human system. Taken in the number of its parts, and the variety and intricacy of its laws, it is without an equal. A perfect knowledge of its construction and composition as a *simple machine* is the work of years; and this knowledge does not require a title of the study necessary to comprehend it fully as a *living system*. It is upon this system that the physician is obliged to operate. It is his business to understand its powers, to perceive the nature and seat of its disorders, and on proper occasions, to speed, to check, to modify, or in some way to correct its movements. Surely, then, two or three years is a period short enough in which to lay in a competent store of the knowledge in question. It is agreed that he who would put in order even the simplest mechanical contrivance, must inform himself regarding its construction. An old wooden clock that needs repair is not put into the hands of a man who never saw the interior of a clock; or if placed in such hands, the owner expects it will be spoiled. He who would *prescribe* successfully for a disordered time-keeper, must acquaint himself with the number and relation of its parts, and the mechanical forces which originate and regulate its motion; or, in other words, he must study its *anatomy* and *physiology*. And is a man fitted for the office of superintending, regulating and repairing the human machine—of prescribing correctly for its multiplied disorders, who knows nothing of its parts, powers and operations—nothing of its anatomy and physiology? and would it not be well to require of him who takes upon himself this office, at least, that amount of knowledge regarding his business which we are accustomed to demand of our ordinary mechanics? Undoubtedly, it is as difficult and intricate a piece of work to patch up a broken constitution as a leaky pair of boots—to keep a-going a rickety human system as a rickety time-piece; while the consequences of blundering and bungling workmanship are even more momentous.

But a knowledge of anatomy and physiology merely, is not all that is required of the physician. Besides being acquainted with disease in all its various and ever-varying forms, he must know the means best adapted to cure it. Disease is to be removed by the application of certain agents or instruments which have power to modify the functions, to raise or diminish vital energy, to correct disordered movements, and to restore the lost balance of the system. These agents are to the physician what tools are to the mechanic. They have multiplied powers, and multiplied and varying relations to our organs, which it is no easy matter to learn. To understand their nature fully, the purposes to which they may be applied, and the effects which they are calculated to produce, in all the different forms of disease, and under the different circumstances of constitution, age, sex, season, climate, &c., is a task sufficient for the keenest mind and the most persevering industry.

It cannot with reason be disputed, then, that medicine, in order to be understood, must be *studied*. Medical skill can be the result of nothing else than severe and protracted application. It is not a thing that men are born with, or purchase of strolling Indians and seventh sons, or learn by dreaming, or even discover by meditation, any more than shoe-making or ship-making. There is neither magic or witchcraft about it. It cannot be acquired without some expense both of time and money, and without, at least, a common share of understanding. The lazy and the lounging, as well as the weak and the ignorant, can never possess it. That which comes without industry is pretension, and makes up its bustling and boasting what it lacks of something better.

But perhaps what we have said on this point is better than more. Those who look upon study and application as, of course, indispensable to true medical skill, will perhaps regard what has been offered as mere trifling, and unworthily even the little space which has been allotted it; while such as consider our art as nothing better than a sort of knack which certain men and women get by inheritance, or as a kind of juggling akin to fire-eating and best exercised by mountebanks and vagabonds, will hardly be convinced by any thing in the shape of argument.

But though it be admitted that medicine is based on science, is a comprehensive and difficult study, and has a most important bearing on the interests of the community, it may still be said that there are not sufficient reasons for legislative provisions and restrictions regarding its practice. To justify legislation in this matter, it will be necessary to show that the highest general good, or in other words the interest and safety of the public, requires it. This we are prepared to do.

The ease with which imposition in the healing art is practiced affords one powerful reason why legislators should attempt something for the public security. In consequence of the peculiar opportunities and facilities for imposture in our profession, the practice of it

holds out great temptations to the idle, the artful, the unprincipled, and the thousands who hate any honest vocation. Hence comes charlatanism in all its extent and variety, from Mr. System and the great nostrum-monger in New York, down to the obscurest root-doctor who strolls about from village to village. We had the curiosity lately to inquire into the proportion of the advertising columns of the several daily newspapers of the city of New York, which was taken up with the advertisements of quack medicines. We found this proportion to be, in the penny papers, at least, one half, and in the larger papers, somewhat less than that.

The reason that imposture is so easy and successful in medicine, is to be found in the general want of information regarding the nature of disease, the operation of remedies, and the powers of the human system. As a consequence, the skill and knowledge of a physician must, for the most part, be taken upon trust, except so far as evidence is to be obtained from his general character and acquirements. There is no subject which, by the mass of mankind, is so rarely made a matter of general study and investigation, even in its elements, as medical science; while, at the same time, there is no subject regarding which men so universally consider themselves adequately informed, in all its practical applications, as this same medical science. This want of knowledge, unfortunately not felt as a want, we deplore, because worth in our profession is, as a consequence, imperfectly appreciated, and because ignorance and impudence thereby gain an advantage of the utmost importance. It is well known, that the arts of intrigue, and the no less potent art of puffing, will oftentimes procure occupation and a name, when unpretending merit is left to perish unnoticed. This fact is well illustrated by the sudden and full employment frequently obtained by itinerants and adventurers without character or merit, and of whose boasted skill and cures we know nothing, except what is to be found in a pompous advertisement or handbill.

The intense anxiety and apprehension of the sick and their friends, and the eagerness with which they grasp at the promise of relief, from however questionable a source it may come, give the arts of empiricism a ten fold efficiency, and villainy an advantage it would not otherwise possess. The powerful manner in which the fear of death operates upon the discerning and judging faculty, particularly when the mind is enfeebled by sickness, can never be fully understood by those who have not often witnessed its effect. Under these circumstances, the understanding is, as it were, gone, and man is the creature of impulse and feeling. He is wavering, credulous and superstitious. He is perhaps ready to bestow confidence on the most worthless objects; to repose faith in the most trifling, ridiculous and hazardous means, provided his fears and hopes are encouraged. We have often witnessed, with the most painful emotions, the effects, immediate and remote, of extravagant and unwarrantable promises in such cases.

The belief which still prevails to no inconsiderable extent, and which is the inheritance of a darker age,—the belief that medicine is an occult science; that medical skill comes in some unknown or undefinable way—that it runs in the blood, or is a gift of nature or heaven—that it is a possession rather than an acquisition—has exerted a most powerful influence on the progress of quackery. We know that this belief will not often be acknowledged, but it is real and influential notwithstanding, as proved by the conduct and practice of men. It cannot be expected, of course, that those who suppose disease to be cured by the exercise of a magical influence, or by tricks of legerdemain, will have a very large share of that salutary incoherency in reference to extravagant pretension and secret skill, which is the safety of the sick man. And when men cannot protect themselves, whether by means of ignorance, or prejudice, or passion, or superstition, or even obduracy, it is the duty of government to become their protector.

We do not mean to say that quackery never effects cures. We know that it is sometimes successful; but we also know that those who practice it deserve little credit for such success. There is an influence exerted on the mind by the imposing process of a mountebank, particularly in the case of nervous and susceptible persons or those given to superstition—an influence of which both patient and practitioner are probably ignorant—which is all-powerful in curing certain kinds of disease. Hope, expectation, confidence, or even the most violent emotions, such as anger, terror, astonishment, have cured many a case of sickness, when recovery has been attributed to some worthless medicine, or to the magical skill of a juggler. Besides, empirics sometimes employ powerful remedies, of real value in their place, which, being prescribed for every form of disease, most infallibly produce relief in some, according to the laws of mere chance. It is well known that arsenic and corrosive sublimate are frequent ingredients in the "vegetable" compounds and specifics of quacks. The real cures effected by empirics, or by medicines used in an empirical manner, suggest the case of a militia-man, who, "being armed and equipped as the law directs," is endeavoring, blindfold, to drive a bullet through some certain object within reach of a socket shot, but in no known direction. He blazes away most valourously, and at every point of the compass; and after having riddled and shattered almost every thing about him, he of necessity finally hits his mark, according to the laws of chance. But does this fact prove him a marksman? Or is it best, from such an instance of blundering success, to blazon his name abroad as one prodigiously skilled in shooting? And yet, such a course is much like that which is often taken with regard to the random successes of empirics, or those ignorant of the nature and situation of disease, &c. And the declaration of a man who always shoots with his eyes shut, that he never misses his mark, and never yet killed the wrong game, is worth just as much as the common

boast of the charlatan that he never fails to cure, that his means are perfectly safe, and that he has in no instance lost a patient.

The want of a test, then, of easy application, by which medical qualifications can be determined by the public, the secrecy and deception with regard to the means employed, which are in the prescriber's power, the generally unknown nature of the remedies he uses, even though their names be known, the debilitating effects of disease and anxiety on the mind of the sick man, and, consequently, the great temptations and opportunities afforded to unprincipled and unqualified men to enter upon the business of medical imposture ;—all these things, and the evils which flow from them, furnish so many reasons why the appointed guardians of the public safety should inquire into the qualifications of medical men, and attach some specific penalty to the practice of fraud and deception. That a government has a right, and, in fact, is obligated to do this, cannot be questioned ; indeed, it is for this very purpose, and others like it, that a government exists.

The principle for which we would here contend is simply this—*That it is the right and duty of government to protect the people in every possible way against any trade, or craft, or profession, in which the public has peculiar interest, and the temptations to defraud and deceive are great.* This principle is recognized on almost every page of our statute-book. In accordance with it, millers are forbidden to take but a certain amount of toll. No person can sell certain kinds of goods at auction without a license. "No person shall set up or carry on the trade or mystery of tanning leather, except he prove his skill therein," "and obtain a license therefor," under a penalty of sixty-seven dollars.* Why? Because the tanning of leather requires skill, and because leather is an article in which extensive fraud is practicable. No man can ship beef, fish, flour, onions, hay, shingles, &c., to a foreign market, unless they have been inspected and approved. Beef for exportation must be, at least, two years old, cut and cured in a certain manner, &c. These inconveniences (restrictions on personal rights, if you please,) must be submitted to, to prevent imposition, and to secure a good character and market abroad.

In accordance with this same principle, it has been farther enacted that "no person shall keep a district school, until he has been examined and approved by the visitors of the school society," and shall receive a certificate of his qualifications for a teacher. Why? Because the business of school-teaching requires some knowledge, and because evils would be the consequence of committing it to incompetent men. Neither shall any person practice as an attorney, unless he be approved, admitted and sworn "agreeably to the rules established" by the court, unless it be in his own case ; "nor shall more than one attorney be allowed to plead on the same side of any cause,"

* Revised Statutes.

with certain exceptions; "and is no case, shall more than two attorneys be admitted to plead, on the same side." All these embarrassments the friends of "free trade" and "equal rights" must submit to, because the public good, (always a higher object than individual good,) requires some such measures to prevent the evils of protracted litigation, and the imposition of unqualified and designing men.

The whole license system recognizes and exemplifies the principle under consideration—that the free exercise of certain vocations by all, without restraint or condition, is not consistent with the highest general good. Inn-keepers are required to obtain a license, give a bond for the observance of the laws, conform to certain regulations regarding the selling of liquors and the preservation of morals, &c.

All these restraints on the business of society and of individuals—constraints similar to those enacted by every civilized government on earth—sufficiently prove the truth and justice of the principle we have been considering; or, at least, show that it is recognized and acted upon continually in our statute-book, which fact is all that is required for our present purpose. Therefore, in order to show the propriety of legislative interference in regard to the practice of physic, it only remains for us to prove that the medical art is similar in its nature, and in its relations to society, to other arts and occupations which, it is agreed, are proper subjects of legislation—a thing which, in fact, has already been done. If we mistake not, we have shown that the medical art, in its relation to the public welfare, holds a very high rank in importance, certainly as high as the art of the school-master or tanner. We have shown, too, that medicine is a difficult and comprehensive study, requiring natural talent, and a long period of diligent training, in such as would practice it successfully, and is not surpassed in these respects by any art or profession whatever, whether it be pleading, or tanning, or school-keeping. Furthermore, we have shown that the business of a physician offers very great advantages for imposition to artful, incompetent and irresponsible men, certainly as great as the advantages of the attorney, the pedagogue, the auctioneer, the taxidermist, or the tanner. Are we not right, then, when we contend that the present medical laws ought not to be repealed, that ignorant and unqualified men ought not to practice physic, and that the guards and barriers which the public now have against imposture ought not to be removed?

Certainly, no fault can be found with the medical laws in this state on the score of their severity. They are the mildest possible, consistent with any legislative restrictions. They say to the medical student—you shall study, at least, two years, be examined as to your qualifications, receive a certificate of your competency, &c. Are these terms hard? Can a man of ordinary capacity acquire an adequate knowledge of our profession in less time? or can any better way be devised to secure this knowledge? If so, let that better way be adopted. If the necessary qualifications can be better determined than by a committee of experienced medical examiners, why, let

another mode of proving competency be tried. We are not so strenuous about the form of the thing as the thing itself.

But how far are the laws relating to our profession really exclusive or oppressive in their operation, and what is the penalty attached to their neglect? They do not prevent the freest competition, and all the benefits which flow from it; or a supply of licensed physicians at all times equal, at least, to the demand. They do not point out to the people the person they shall employ when they are sick. They allow all the utmost freedom of choice. A man who is ill, or even not ill, can employ a "regular doctor," or a "botanic doctor," or an "Indian doctor," or a doctor, one or more, until his means are exhausted and no one has business to interfere. He can swallow calomel, or lobelia, or tany tea, or "doctor Broadbent's pills," or nothing, as best suits his fancy. He can have the fullest benefit of that peculiar wonder-working skill which comes from inheritance, or purchase, or inspiration, or inoculation, or which is the possession of root-doctors, patent-doctors, cancer-doctors, &c., and which a man whose knowledge is derived from observation and study can, of course, never learn. Nor does the law prohibit the man (or woman,) who has this skill from using it to the utmost advantage, either of himself or the world. He is not liable to a prosecution for impressing his faculty, like the unlicensed attorney, or tanner, or auctioneer.

But the unlicensed practitioner cannot collect his fees! True, he cannot by law; or rather, he cannot enforce payment. This is the penalty, and the whole penalty, for neglecting to qualify himself for his business, and submit to an examination relative to his attainments.

No inconsiderable part of the beneficial effects of the present medical laws is derived from the sanction and authority which they give to just and healthful sentiments on an important subject. They may be considered as the expression of an opinion, by true and influential men, that an intelligent, learned and faithful medical faculty should be sought, and encouraged, and trusted—as opinion, having no slight weight with the community at large. They virtually say—We, the educators, representatives of the people, being impressed with the importance of an able and skillful body of physicians, and the necessity of education and a diligent course of training preparatory to the successful exercise of the medical art, do enact, &c. We need not say that the repeal of the medical laws, under present circumstances, would have the effect to throw the whole weight of legislative authority into the opposite scale. Such repeal would, virtually, be an expression of the opinion that medicine is not a science, and is not learned by observation and study; that the art of curing diseases may be something akin to a knack or "gilt;" that the ignorance and stupidity of a man afford no ground for distrusting his competency and skill as a "doctor;" and that mountbanks and knaves, and all that genus, are just as likely to be skillful and true physicians, as men of science, learning and honor, and therefore ought not to be discouraged.

We now come to a topic we would gladly enough avoid, could we do it without having our motives misinterpreted. It has hitherto been our policy not to take notice, as a body, of particular forms of quackery occurring without the profession, unless we have been distinctly called upon to do so, as in the present instance. It has always been one of the primary objects of empiricism, whatever its shape, to provoke the profession to take an attitude of open hostility against it—an attitude which our notions of self respect, as well as our interest, would lead us to avoid. There is no cry with which the public sympathize so warmly, or which will go so far in making an insignificant man a prodigy, as the well-founded cry of persecution. The meanest pigmy who can make the world think that the world is conspiring to crush him, suddenly swells to the dignity and stature of a giant.—But we return to our more proper subject.

It is well known that the petition for the repeal of that section of the medical laws which says that the irregular practitioner shall not collect his fees *à la loi*, have been got up and principally signed by the friends of what purports to be a new system of medicine, called the "Thomsonian system"—a system (we call it so by way of courtesy,) until lately not much known in this state. It is supposed that if this repeal can be effected, the "new system" will receive a great benefit. It now becomes our duty (not a pleasant one) to give some account of this system.

Samuel Thomson, who claims to be its founder, was born in New Hampshire in 1769.* He claims to have discovered his "cancer weed" (*lobelia*) when he was four years old. He was brought up to hard work upon a farm. At eight years of age, he seems to have taken his first lessons in medicine of an old woman who lived in the neighborhood of his father's, who was skilled in the use of "roots and herbs," and who, he affirms, cured him of croup-rash. He appears to have had no education, not even such as is the privilege of the most destitute now-a-days in New England. He early became dissatisfied with the "regular doctors," and, consequently, began to prescribe for himself, and subsequently for his neighbors and friends. In 1805, his practice had become so extensive that he found it impossible to attend to his farm, and as he "had always a very strong aversion to working on a farm," "the reason of which he could not account for," [his own words,] he finally, after "having maturely weighed the matter," "concluded to make use of that gift [his own words again] which I thought nature, or the God of nature, had implanted in me; and if I possessed such a gift, I had no need of learning, for no one can learn that gift."—And he immediately "thought of what St. Paul says concerning the different gifts by the same spirit; one had the gift of prophecy; another, the gift of healing; another, the working of miracles." After these reflections, he con-

* Our facts are all taken from his *Narrative of his own Life, and New Guide to Health*, written by himself, and edited by James Knapp, 1836.

cluded to consecrate his life to the exercise of his "gift in healing the sick," (his favorite mode of expression.) Since that period, he appears to have seen much hard and various service, and has spent his time in Portsmouth, Boston, Maine, and other parts of New England. Most of the latter part of his life seems to have been occupied in forming botanical societies, selling his "family rights," (the right of using his patent for families,) establishing agencies, and quarrelling with his agents, who, by his own account, (doubtless a true one,) have taken every opportunity to defraud him and mar his honors. His chosen confidants and associates seem, in almost all instances, to have turned out pharisees and knaves! What a contrast on the integrity of his followers!! One Horton Howard, an agent for the Western country, sold in three and a half years eighty thousand dollars worth of rights! In order to get a settlement with him, Thomson was obliged "to sacrifice about seven eighths of what should have been coming to me" (him)!

Thomson appears never to have studied medicine at all, in any of its branches. All his discoveries he claims to have fished up from the depths of his own understanding; though his knowledge of disease and of remedies, (such as it is,) has evidently been picked up among the grandmothers and nurses of our country—those living repositories of traditional medical lore, for whom we entertain, of course, a most profound respect. Though very clearly a man of considerable shrewdness, and for aught we know, mainly honest in his intentions, he gives proofs of the most perfect ignorance of what we call medical science. He shows himself entirely unacquainted even with botany, about which his followers make such a flourish. When applying for his first patent in 1813, he was obliged to go to Dr. Mitchell for the botanical names of the plants he used. As it regards anatomy, physiology, pathology, chemistry, &c., they are not even mentioned in his book, except so far as they are understood or mis-understood by matrons and nurses. He says not one word from which we may infer that he ever saw the interior of a man. He professes great success in surgery and midwifery, as well as physic, notwithstanding.

What may be called *Darwin Thomson's theory*, invented by himself, (we call him *darwin* to show that we are willing to share the honor of the title with any body who claims it,) seems to be a mutilated copy of a very ancient one, originally the property of one Hippocrates, (who lived some three thousand years ago,) the remains of which are still to be traced among the medical whimsies of our land—those skilled in traditional medical knowledge. It had its birth, of course, before the dawn of accurate science. We give the gist of the theory, as discovered by Dr. Thomson, in his own words.

"I found, after maturely considering the subject, that all animal bodies are formed of the four elements, earth, air, fire and water. Earth and water constitute the solids, and air and fire, or heat, are the cause of life and motion. That cold, or lessening the power of

heat, is the cause of all disease; that to restore heat to its natural state was the only way in which health could be produced; that the constitutions of all mankind being essentially the same, and differing only in the different temperament of the same materials of which they are composed; it appeared clearly to my mind, that all disease proceeded from one general cause, and might be cured by one general remedy; that a state of perfect health arises from a due balance or temperature of the four elements; but if it is by any means destroyed, the body is more or less disordered. And when this is the case, there is always an actual diminution or absence of the element of fire or heat; and in proportion to this diminution or absence, the body is affected by its opposite, which is cold. And I found that all the disorders which the human family were afflicted with, however various the symptoms, and different the names by which they are called, arise directly from obstructed perspiration, which is always caused by cold, or want of heat; for if there is a natural heat, it is impossible but there must be a natural perspiration."

All this, or rather the original of all this, (for the copy is mutilated and imperfect,) is ingenious enough, when it is considered as the product of pure reflection, without the aid of observation and experiments, or the lights of modern science, (and it should be so considered in the case of Hippocrates, the author;) but what are we to say of such wretched stuff, put forth, at this day, as true and original doctrine? "I found," says Dr. Thomson, and "I found," he repeats; but how did he find what he describes? why, by "intuitively considering the subject!" And is this the way to analyse a man's frame? Why did he not first look into the human body, and then tell us what it is made of, instead of staring on its outside, and afterwards "intuitively considering" its composition? Really, we feel that we are consenting to an act of humiliation in exposing such obvious absurdity—such nonsense, thrice distilled. To tell the truth, we feel ashamed of ourselves, ashamed of our common nature, and ashamed even of our country, that circumstances, ere, that public opinion, should require of us this exposure. What school boy does not know that neither of the above named elements are elements, with the exception of heat? Earth consists of more than sixty elements; air, of at least three, oxygen, nitrogen, and carbonic acid gas; and water of two, oxygen and hydrogen.

"Cold," the doctor continues, "is the cause of all disease"—for instance, fever, itch, small pox, the inflammation which follows a scald, salivation from calomel, and, we suppose, broken bones and pregnancy, for we have noticed that Thomsonians steam for both! But if cold is such an enemy to life, how happens it that people should live in Lapland, or why should they die under the equator? But the doctor himself says, in another place, that bad food is a cause of disease, and in another that filth is a cause, and in a hundred other places, that sickness is produced by the "regular doctors!" On one occasion, he estimates that nine tenths of all the sickness of

our country is caused by calomel, opium, infirmity and the lancet!* Can it be necessary to say more of Thomson's theory?

Thomson's principal remedies are the following. We prefix the numbers and names by which they are known.—No. 1. Lobelia. No. 2. Capsicum, or red pepper. No. 3. The bark of the root of the bayberry, and the inner bark of the hemlock tree. No. 4. A spirituous infusion of bitter herb, (balsam,) bayberry bark and poplar bark. No. 5. A decoction of poplar bark, bayberry and peach meats, or cherry stone meats, with sugar, &c. No. 6. High wines, myrrh, cayenne, and sometimes spirits of turpentine. *Compositum powder*. Bayberry, hemlock, ginger, cayenne, and cloves. *Nerve powder*. The root of the lady's slipper.

These medicines, together with the use of meats, are embraced in Dr. Thomson's patent. All of them, or nearly all, have been used in medical or domestic practice for a very long time, certainly before Thomson was born. Even the lobelia, which he claims as peculiarly his own, has been known, in its more obvious properties, ever since the settlement of this country. It is a very active medicine, even dangerous when indiscreetly used, but has valuable properties in its place. It has been occasionally employed by regular physicians for more than half a century. Capsicum, too, is a valuable remedy in certain cases, and has been a favorite medicine with some physicians for more than a century; though, (it is unnecessary to say,) it is not a specific. As for the other articles, it is sufficient to mention them in a general way. They are none of them of very much value as medicines; though all have been employed by physicians or nurses for a long period, some of them time out of mind.

Thomson and his followers have much to say about there being vegetables enough in every country to cure the diseases incident to its climate. When asserting this, they probably forget that capsicum, of which they make constant use, is not a native of New England, or even of the United States. For some very queer reasons, Thomson even condemns that which is cultivated at the south. Myrrh and cloves, too, grow no nearer to than Arabia and the East Indies, and ginger as far off at least, as Mexico. Of the eight compounds which Thomson has patented, four of them (Nos. 2, 5, and

* The Thomsonians profess to use only vegetable remedies, and denounce all minerals as poisons. They seem not to be aware that every mineral constitutes a necessary part of our existence. Common salt is a mineral—of course "poisonous." This "poison" however is a necessary ingredient in the fluids of the animal system. Laver, sanguis, sulphur, and other minerals, are constituent parts of animal bodies, and every drop of blood is found to contain iron. The principal portion of bones—that on which their strength depends—is a mineral. What a frightfully "poisonous" composition is the human system! Had the wisdom of Thomsonians been employed in the creation of man, surely he would have been formed of pure and more harmless elements.

The shell of an egg is principally of mineral composition, and a fowl sustained entirely by a vegetable diet lays an egg without any shell. We mention this fact to illustrate the absurdity of a pure "Botanic" diet.

6, and "composition powder") always, and two others (Nos. 3 and 4,) occasionally, contain articles of foreign growth!

It is mentioned, too, by the botanic faculty, as an insurmountable objection to the regular physicians, that they conceal their knowledge and deceive their patients by the use of hard, jaw-breaking names. But what are we to say of the patent doctors, who are so afraid of names of any kind, because they sometimes betray secrets, that they designate their medicines by numbers and arbitrary terms invented for the purpose, whose signification it is impossible to ascertain, except by the purchase of a "right," or by accident, as in the case of ourselves. The technical terms used by physicians are the received terms of science, whose meaning may be learned by any one ignorant of it, by looking into such books as are to be found in the hands of every medical man, and in every book-store. Such terms are a lock to which every one has, or may have, the key; whereas, numbers are a lock to which there is no key, except to the initiated, or purchaser of a right. Here, again, we feel that the duty of exposing such painful objections is a degrading one; but it has been imposed upon us by authority which we could not disregard. A hundred other objections, like those already noticed, we might examine—but we forbear.

We shall allude but to one other topic. Much odium has been cast on our profession by fixing on it an unpopular name. It has been urged, sometimes with great vehemence, that our medical laws ought to be repealed, because they make the practice of physic a monopoly. This, possibly, may be brought forward as a reason, (a poor one enough, as we have already shown,) by those who are not themselves engaged in a monopoly; but how can the friends of the botanic system, (as it is fondly called,) plead thus, when that same system is the most perfect monopoly in the world. No man has liberty to employ Thomson's medicines, in the manner described in his patent, without purchasing a "right." Let a person's disease or suffering be what it may, let him be in the agony of death even, and a sympathizing friend cannot so much as prepare and administer a single grain of Thomson's No. 1, without exposing himself to a prosecution. Should Doctor Thomson himself be sent far in such a case, he would not give a single particle of medicine, (such has been his course for many years, as declared in his "Narrative,") unless a right, costing twenty dollars, should forthwith be purchased. Was there ever so unreasonable a use made of law? If Thomson's system possess but a tithe of the value which his advocates claim for it, he is beyond all comparison the greatest monopolist in the land. He holds in his fist a power which it is not easy to esti-

* We have before admitted, so the fact stated by Dr. Thomson, that one of his agents for the Western country, realized eighty thousand dollars for his sales in three and a half years. During the same period the rights sold by other agents named by him, produced an enormous amount. Yet his disciples ask for legislation against medical monopoly!

mate, and which should never be entrusted to any one man in this republican country. He has a certain patent mode of curing all diseases, of removing every pain and infirmity; but no one can derive any benefit from it, either for himself or his friends, should his poverty or his principles forbid his paying twenty dollars for a patent! Let those who talk so much of "equal rights" ponder this matter.

A botanical doctor's monopoly is founded entirely on purchase. His patent right is his license. Secure in the exclusive possession of this, and intrenched by laws which operate as though made expressly for his benefit, he laughs at competition, and bids defiance to the world. He needs no study, no science, no knowledge, no acuteness, nothing but ample means of purchase, and he is a member of Dr. Thomson's "Friendly Botanic Society"—one of a privileged class—and can threaten with the terrors of a prosecution all such as attempt to use lobelia, red pepper and scents, in the manner that he does.

If our profession, then, under the present laws, is a monopoly, Thomsonism is a much greater one. The laws, in the first case, may be considered as reading thus—No man who shall practice physic, without having previously studied at least two years, been examined as to his qualifications, and received a certificate of his competency, shall be allowed to collect his fees by process of law. In the second case, they may be regarded as reading thus—No person shall practice as a botanic doctor, unless he shall have previously purchased a right of Dr. Thomson, under the pains and penalties of a prosecution before the United States court. As the present movement in regard to the repeal of the medical laws is made avowedly for the benefit of the steam fraternity, we would ask the question whether the friends of this movement would not find their account in dwelling no more on the odiousness of monopolies?

For the reasons which have been given in the foregoing pages, we cannot but hope that the legislature of this highly enlightened state will weigh well the matter, before giving their solemn sanction to what we, in our hearts, conceive to be a great system of imposture. We cannot but look on the present endeavor to procure a repeal of the existing medical laws, as an attempt to break down and disgrace the regular medical faculty; to bring learning and science into discredit; and to build up on the ruins thereof a set of idle and irresponsible men—adventurers in the great business of medical imposture—who, as a body, have no one of the numerous qualifications which we conceive to be necessary to a skillful and trusty physician. We have no doubt that this attempt, even though it attain its immediate object, will prove abortive in its ultimate aim. We know that this enlightened community will never countenance quackery as a general and permanent thing; but, at the same time, we have good reason to believe that many honest men will be perplexed, many minds unbridged, and individual opinion in hundreds of cases unsettled, should the present excitement against medicine as a science, and in favor of medicine as a "gift," be encouraged.

PROCEEDS

OF THE

PRESIDENT AND FELLOWS

OF THE

CONNECTICUT MEDICAL SOCIETY,

IN CONVENTION,

MAY, 1881.

WITH A LIST OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY.

HARTFORD:
J. HOLGROVE, PRINTER.
1881.

more, and which should never be
republican country. He has
diseases, of removing every po-
tential benefit from it, either
poverty or his principles forbid
Let those who taste so much

A botanical doctor's

At the Annual Convention of the President and Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society, held at Gilson's Hall, in Hartford, May 12, 1841:

Certificates of the election of Fellows, from the several Counties, were presented, as follows:

Hartford County.

Eli Hall,
George W. Sanford, M. D.
Alfred Kollogg,
Samuel Shurtliff, M. D.
Joseph H. Jewett.

Litchfield County.

Joseph G. Beckwith, M. D.
Reuben M. Woodruff, M. D.
Wells Bensonley, M. D.
Samuel W. Gold, M. D.
A. M. Huxley, M. D.

New Haven County.

Isaac Gouldell, M. D.
Nathan B. Ives, M. D.
Charles Hooker, M. D.
Henry Henson, M. D.
Wyllis Woodruff, M. D.

Windham County.

Am. Water, M. D.
William Henshaw, M. D.
William Water, M. D.
Eleanor Litchfield,
*William Wells, M. D.

New London County.

Dyer T. Brainard, M. D.
*James Morgan, M. D.
William Hyde, M. D.
Joseph Darby, M. D.
*Benjamin P. Stoddard, M. D.

Fairfield County.

*H. N. Bennett,
Sturges Bailey, M. D.
*A. L. Williams, M. D.
*Samuel S. Noyes,
Russell B. Bantford.

Middlesex County.

Thomas Miner, M. D.
Seth L. Child, M. D.
Elisha B. Nye.

Tolland County.

Timothy Dimeck, M. D.
Julius L. White, Jr., M. D.
Abigail Ladd, M. D.

The President, Silas Faller, M. D. declined a re-election and made the following communication:

GENTLEMEN:—In taking leave of this Society, and the office your partiality has repeatedly conferred, suffer me to return you my unfeigned thanks for these expressions of your kind feelings and confidence. My election to the Presidency for the past year, by an unanimous vote of the Convention, was received with much gratification, as it might be considered not only as an approval of my professional character generally, but as approving particularly the manner in which I had discharged the duties of a public appointment, then recently relinquished. For these, and other tokens of approbation, indulge me in saying I feel the most lively sense of gratitude. In the discharge of my official duties, I have dismissed all sectional feelings, kept the good of the Society constantly in view, and put forth my most strenuous efforts to promote its best interests.

The interests of this institution are intimately connected with public and individual happiness. It aims to place the profession of medicine on the solid basis of inductive philosophy, and give it a fixed location in the ranks of modern sciences. To effect these great and important purposes, every thing in the shape of hypothesis must at least be received as doubtful authority, and nothing short of facts suffered to mingle with the constituent parts of our doctrines, or in any way influence our prescriptions. The profession has of late been much engaged in these pursuits, and has much reason to be satisfied with the results. Pathology has at no time, since medicine has been studied as a science, or practiced as an art, been placed on so solid a foundation, or so well understood as at the present time. Much improvement has been made in medicine and surgery within the last forty years, more perhaps than for many centuries previous. In medicine, fixed and solid doctrines have been discovered, and their applications ascertained by the laborious method of experiment and induction. More efficient and more agreeable remedies have been introduced, and successfully administered. In surgery, new and approved modes of operating have been employed, which have not only shortened the period and lessened the pain of the operation, but greatly accelerated the recovery of the patient. The successful results of these improvements are proved by the statistics of different countries. By these it is shown that the average period of human life has been much extended, that a vast amount of human misery has been alleviated, and that many diseases which were formerly considered incurable, have readily yielded to new and efficient modes of treatment. Among these last may be noticed, leprosy. It is but recently

that the pathology of the disease has been so far ascertained as to enable the profession to prescribe with any certainty of success. As soon as its pathological varieties were understood, it was at once brought under the control of science, and the influence of remedial agents. The profession first suggested the possibility of instructing the deaf and dumb in the arts of reading and writing—of teaching them the manner of communicating by signs—of furnishing the mind with abstract ideas, and leading them from nature, through the paths of systematic instruction, up to a knowledge of nature's God. Also of teaching the blind to read and write; thus while the mute was taught the mysteries of the invisible, the blind was brought in connection with the physical world. For these improvements, the community are mostly indebted to the medical profession; and so far as our State participates in these blessings, to the members of the Medical Society, both collectively and individually.

In contemplating these improvements, my mind has been led to notice an event which my feelings will not suffer me to pass over in silence—an event which has occurred since our last session, and has removed "far from us" one of our most worthy and efficient members; whose aid in the cases of humanity, and whose efforts for the establishment of benevolent institutions, and the promotion of medical science, have never been suffered to slumber during a long period of years. It is unnecessary to say I allude to the death of our late President, Dr. Thomas Munz, whose name is identified with this society—with all the benevolent and benevolent institutions of this, and I may with much propriety, add those of the New England States. It would be superfluous for me to say much of a man who has so recently presided over your deliberations, and whose sterling moral and social qualities are so well known to the Society. It is well known with what enthusiasm he devoted himself to the profession—that he studied such, and with increasing efforts for the advancement of medical science. To permit this, he was eminently qualified by his extensive learning, and particularly by his knowledge of so many languages. He studied in his acquaintance with the Greek and Latin, which are taught in our Colleges, he was familiar with the Hebrew, French, Italian, Spanish, and German languages. In the last he spoke during the delirium of his last sickness, and seemed surprised that he was not understood. He was among the most active founders of the Connecticut Retreat. This, with those of Worcester, Charlestown, and Brattleborough, he was in the habit of visiting, and spending much time with their Superintendents. He was a man of kind feelings, and a benevolent heart. Dr. M. was much distinguished for his high literary and intellectual attainments.

but not more so: than for his truly Christian character, as exemplified in his life and conversation, and his unshaken confidence in the promises of the gospel, and in the assurances it gives of a joyful resurrection.

I have only to add my best wishes for the prosperity of this Institution—my anxious desires for its advancement in medical science—and my prayers for the happiness and prosperity of its members.

1. *Resolved*, That the thanks of this Convention be tendered to Silas Fuller, M. D. for the honorable manner in which he has discharged the duties of President of this Society, and also for his communication to this meeting; and that a copy be requested, to be published with the proceedings of this Convention.

2. *Resolved*, That the informality in the proceedings of the New London County Medical Society, shall not debar the Fellows from acting in this meeting.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

ELIJAH MIDDLEBROOK, M. D. *President*.
LUTHER TICKNOR, M. D. *Vice President*.
ARCHIBALD WELCH, M. D. *Secretary*.
VIRGIL, M. DOW, M. D. *Treasurer*.

In the absence of Dr. Dow, Dr. Hooker was appointed Treasurer pro tem. The Treasurer's Report was presented, accepted, and the sum of ten dollars allowed for his services.

The following Standing Committees were appointed:

ELIJAH MIDDLEBROOK, M. D. <i>ex officio</i> .	} Committee of Examinations.
LUTHER TICKNOR, M. D.	
DEED T. BRAINARD, M. D.	
EARL SWIFT, M. D.	
JEREMIAH T. DENISON, M. D.	
ARCHIBALD WELCH, M. D.	
WILLIAM S. PIERSON, M. D.	} Com. to examine the Proficiency in the Medical Instruction of Yale College.
STURGES BURLEY, M. D.	
ISAAC GOODSELL, M. D.	
JOSIAH G. BECKWITH, M. D.	
REVIS TURNER, M. D.	
EDD IVES, M. D.	} Committee to examine Physicians of the Receipt for the Insane.
BARBARA B. DOWNING, M. D.	
SEYMOUR W. GOLD, M. D.	
REINHARD WALKER, M. D.	
GEORGE SEYMOUR, M. D.	

3. *Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to nominate candidates for Honorary Degrees and Honorary Membership.

Drs. Nathan B. Ives, George W. Sanford, Dyer T. Brainerd, Reuben M. Woodruff,	} Com- mittee.	{ Russell B. Botchford William Witter, Thomas Miner, Jabez L. White, Jr.
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4. *Resolved*, That a Committee of three be appointed on Disputes.

Drs. Joseph Durley, Abijah Lusk, Asa Witter,	} Committee.
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Dr. Amariah Brigham read a Dissertation on Insanity as a subject of Medical Jurisprudence.

5. *Resolved*, That the thanks of this Convention be tendered to Dr. Brigham, for his very able and interesting Dissertation, and that he be requested to leave a copy with the Secretary, to be placed on file.

6. *Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to nominate a Dissertator for the next Convention.

Drs. Josiah G. Beckwith, Sturges Bulkley, Henry Bronson,	} Committee.
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Statistical returns of births and deaths were made from the several Counties, and it was

7. *Resolved*, That they be referred to a Committee of one from each County.

Drs. Charles Becker, Samuel Shurtleff, William Hyde, Wells Beardsley,	} Com- mittee.	{ Sturges Bulkley, Eleazer Litchfield, Seth L. Child, Timothy Dimock.
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The Committee on the sixth resolution nominated Dr. Charles Woodward, of Middletown, and he was accordingly appointed.

The Students recommended by the several County meetings, to attend gratuitously the ensuing course of lectures in the Medical Institution of Yale College, are, Samuel B. Fuller, Hartford; David A. Tyler, New Haven; Osgood Sumner, New London; William M. Curtis, Fairfield; Edward P. Lyman, Litchfield; Gilbert Fuller, Windham; Horace Burr, Middletown; Horatio T. Wells, Tolland.

The Committee on the third resolution recommended Eli Hall, of East Hartford; Joseph F. Jewett, of Grafton; and Eleazer Litchfield, of Woodstock; to the President and Fellows of Yale College, as candidates for the Honorary Degree of Doctor in Medicine; and Willard Parker, M. D. of the city of New York, as an Honorary Member of the Connecticut Medical Society.

The Committee on the seventh resolution made the following report, which was accepted and passed: "That the reports of Bills of Mortality, communicated to this Convention, be committed to the Secretary, to be published at his discretion."

The Committee on the fourth resolution reported a bill which was accepted, and ordered to be paid.

8. *Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to present to the General Assembly the subject of a State Bill of Mortality, and endeavor to procure the passage of an Act for the registration of deaths, and their causes; and also to attend to any other subject which may come before the Legislature, relating to the interests of the Connecticut Medical Society.

George Sumner,	}	Committee.
Archibald Welch,		
David S. Dodge,		

9. *Resolved*, That the subject of *Post Houses*, which was presented to this Convention by the New London County Medical Society, be referred to the Committee which was appointed under the eighth resolution.

10. *Resolved*, That we respect the memory of Thomas Miner, M. D. late President of this Society; and that we deplore his death as an irreparable loss to the Society, to our profession generally, and to the public.

A report of the Committee of Examination for 1840-41, was presented to the Convention by Professor Hooker, Secretary of the Committee of Examination. The report contained the names of the Graduates and Licentiates, and the subjects of their Dissertations. Luther Tinkner, M. D. of Salisbury, delivered the Annual Address to the candidates, and Earl Swift, M. D. of Mansfield, was appointed to deliver the Address at the examination in 1842.

11. *Resolved*, That a tax of one dollar be laid on each member of this Society, and that it become due on the first day of January next.

Adjourned *ad libitum*.

ARCHIBALD WELCH, Secretary.

MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

*FELIX PARCELLS,	<i>New York,</i>
JAMES JACKSON,	<i>Boston, Mass.</i>
JOHN C. WARREN,	" "
*SAMUEL L. MITCHELL,	<i>New York,</i>
DAVID HOSACK,	" "
*WRIGHT POST,	" "
BENJAMIN SILLIMAN,	<i>New Haven,</i>
GEORGE M'CLANLIN,	<i>Philadelphia, Pa.</i>
*JOHN MACKIE,	<i>Providence, R. I.</i>
*CHARLES FENNEBURG,	<i>East Greenwich, R. I.</i>
THEODORE ROBERTS, D.D.,	<i>Albany, N. Y.</i>
JAMES TRATCHEL,	<i>Plymouth, Mass.</i>
MORRIS WHITE,	<i>Cherry Valley, N. Y.</i>
*WM. P. DEWEES,	<i>Philadelphia, Pa.</i>
EDWARD DELAFIELD,	<i>New York,</i>
JOHN DELAMATER,	<i>Hillbushby, N. Y.</i>
WALTER CHANNING,	<i>Boston, Mass.</i>
JACOB BUELOM,	" "
PHILIP SENG PHUEN,	<i>Philadelphia, Pa.</i>
*LEWIS HEEDMAN,	<i>U. S. Army.</i>
DANIEL DEAKE,	<i>Cincinnati, Ohio.</i>
HENRY MITCHELL,	<i>Kernick, N. Y.</i>
NATHAN RYNO SMITH,	<i>Baltimore, Md.</i>
VALENTINE MOTT,	<i>New York.</i>
SAMUEL WHITE,	<i>Hudson, N. Y.</i>
ROBERT D. MURKIN,	<i>Cincinnati, Ohio.</i>
WILLIAM TULLY,	<i>New Haven.</i>
RICHMOND BROWNELL,	<i>Providence, R. I.</i>
WM. BESUNONT,	<i>U. S. Army.</i>
SAMUEL HENRY DIERINGOS,	<i>Charleston, S. C.</i>
SAMUEL BAKER WOODWARD,	<i>Worcester, Mass.</i>
JOHN SPEARNS,	<i>New York.</i>
STEPHEN W. WILLIAMS,	<i>Deerfield, Mass.</i>
HENRY GREEN,	<i>Albany, N. Y.</i>
GEORGE FROST,	<i>Springfield, Mass.</i>
WILLIAM PARRER,	<i>New York.</i>

ORDINARY MEMBERS.

The names of those Members who are exempt from taxation by age, are in *Italics*;
the names of those who have been Presidents of the Society, are in *Capsule*.

HARTFORD COUNTY.

Silas Fuller, M. D. Hartford, *Chairman*.

GURDON W. BENTLEY, M. D. Hartford, *Clerk*.

HARTFORD, SILAS FULLER, George	Parham, Paul, James H. Morton, Wm.
Swann, John L. Comstock, Edward P.	Daniel.
Terry, David S. Dodge, Henry Helms.	Payson, Wilcox Swett.
George O. Benson, James Barre, Col.	Ensign, J. P. Converse, A. L. Spalding.
Samuel B. Barre, George B. Har-	Examiners, Asahel Thompson, E. W.
ley, E. E. May, Gordon W. Russell,	Cunnington, Julius Willard, Clemon
Amos E. Brigham, David Cary, Presi-	Swett.
dent, W. Glenworth, Benjamin Rogers,	Georgetown, Ralph Carter.
E. K. Hunt.	South Glastonbury, Daniel Holt.
West Hartford, Warren A. Fuller, Edward	Andrus.
Brown.	Eastbury, Felix Stirling.
Acres, Alfred Kellogg.	Grove, James Case, Daniel Benjamin,
Barnes, Herman Grifley, Sylvester Tule-	Joseph P. Jewett.
ley.	East Grafton, Chester Hamlin.
New Britain, Samuel Hart, Lucius B.	West Grafton, Asahel D. Wilson.
Woodruff, John R. Lee.	Hartford, Wm. H. Huggins.
Bloomfield, Dennis H. Hubbard.	Hartford, Wm. C. Williams.
Bristol, Jared W. Parker, Orrin W.	Martinsburg, S. W. McIntosh.
Camp.	Stonington, Augustus E. Case, Samuel
Bloomington, Edward Field, Wm. Thos.	Stoddard.
St. Asaph, Barwell.	Yerford, George W. Barford.
Canaan, Benjamin Nelson. — Bristol.	Stonington, Julius S. Barnes, Timothy
Colchester, Samuel W. Brown, Daniel	James, Frederick A. Hart.
Tilling.	Seymour, Asahel L. Russell, Samuel Lee.
East Hartford, Timothy Hall, Presi-	Weston, Asahel Welch, Asahel
dent, Eli Hall.	Robinson, Amos F. Cooke.
East Windsor, Dyck F. Hall, Horton	Souly Hill, Daniel Fuller, Asahel W. Bar-
C. Gilbert.	rows.
Frank, Hiram Wilson.	Windsor, Wm. S. Pomeroy, T. Hill.

NEW HAVEN COUNTY.

HAM GODDARD, M. D. Woodbridge, *Chairman*.

E. HUGHES BRIDGE, M. D. New Haven, *Clerk*.

NEW HAVEN, DAN STORER, Eli	Thompson, Willoughby L. Esq., Myron
Jonathan Knight, Timothy P. Dow,	R. Hubbard.
S. Parkerson, Virgil M. Dow, Alfred S.	Christman, Am J. Briggs.
Mason, John H. Kim, Charles Hest-	Dexter, James M. Callahan.
on, Henry B. Perry, Asahel V. Hunt.	Glastonbury, Andrew Goodrich.
Norfolk, B. Levi, E. Higgins, Belden	Hartford, Asahel Goodrich.
William T. Paine, Daniel H. Moore,	C. Johnson, Asahel Kendall, Thomas
Erasmus D. North, John Andrews, Tre-	Stoddard.
ver, Lucius A. Thomas, Levi J. Kim, Oth-	East Haven, Rals Pomeroy.
o. Goddard, Henry A. Jewett.	East Haven, Leont. Knap, Charles S.
Franklin, Phineas T. Miller.	Thompson.

Guildford, Joel Caldwell, Elder, Hiram	Prospect, Augustus Ayres
son, Abner Feltus	Swallow, Anthony B. Brown
Madison, Reynolds Wells	South Drift, Nathan C. Baldwin
Marion, Wyllys Woodruff, Arist. An- drews	Wallingford, Lyman Parker, Benjamin F. Harris
Middlebury, Jacob Hawley	Wassbury, Joseph Porter, Daniel Porter
Millard, Hall Allen, Lewis N. Dou- blet	Wemyss, Edward, David Prichard, Gil- bert E. Pratt
North Benning, Sheldon Benning	Wenatchee, Lucius Spencer
North Haven, Amos Hardy, Chas. W. H. Foster	Woodbridge, Jane Goodell, Andrew Cas- tle
Orange, ———	Wolcott, Henry Bryngton
Oxford, South Stone, John Lonsbury	

NEW LONDON COUNTY.

ALFRED DOWNER, M. D. Priston, *Choirman.*RUFUS W. MATHEWS, M. D. Norwich, *Chrl.*

New London, Eliza North, Archibald	North Falling W. W. J. Warren
Morris, Dora T. Brewster, Nathaniel	Northbury, John C. M. Woodbury
S. Perkins, James Morgan, Isaac H.	Northville, Epiphany, Henry C.
Porter, William W. Minor	Orange, Joseph E. Gay, John C.
Reade, Samuel Johnson	Reade, ———
Colchester, JOHN R. PATTON, Esq.	North Stonington, Thomas T. Wallis
East Putnam, Frederick Morgan	Thomas F. Wallis
East Lyme, John L. Smith, Maria F. Pea- son	North, Ralph Farnsworth, Worthington
Franklin, Adah Woodruff	Hartford, Chas. Hargrave, Eliza Dy- er, Joseph Peabody, Benjamin V. Root,
Greene, ———	John W. Hilderson
Green City, Lucius Tyler, John C. Tyl- er, Laura Plimney	Greenwich, Zeph. F. Tappan, Eliza
Greene, John G. Stone, Joseph Hart	Hamden, Jonathan W. Brooks
Putnamville, Benjamin F. Shadler	Princeton, Jerry Howard, Edmund B. Down- ing
Lakewood, Joseph Goodrich, Emma O. Good, David Holmes	Putnamville, Thomas W. Gay
Ledyard, Robert A. Muzzey	Putnam, John F. Fuller
Gales Ferry, ———	Stonington, William Adams, William
Lisbon, Vero Smith	Hyde, George E. Palmer, William
Lyme, Richard Noyes, John Noyes, T. Barrett	Hyde, Jr.
	Mystic, Moses Manning
	Weymouth, James Knight

FAIRFIELD COUNTY.

DANIEL CANNOCK, M. D. Danbury, *Choirman.*STURGES BUCKLEY, M. D. Morrow, *Chrl.*

Fairfield, Deborah T. Benson, Yer- brook, Hester Robinson	Rehob, H. H. Bennett
Southport, Joshua Sherman	Daniel Warren Forest
Bedford, Samuel Kimball, David H.	Greenwich, Benson F. White, David
Nash, Samuel Smith	Hamden, James H. Holmes, Joseph
Brookfield, Nath. J. Loring, A. L. Williams	Townsend
Edwin Loring	Stonington, George, Dabney, Samuel H.
Danbury, Daniel Cannock, Edward Tappan, and E. F. Bennett	Rehob

MIDDLESEX COUNTY.

THOMAS MEYER, M. D. Middletown, *Chairman*.C. H. ARKINITY, M. D. Chester, *Clerk*.

MIDDLETOWN, Edward Watney, Joseph Dabham, Seth L. Child.
 BARNETT, Thomas May, Charles Wood, East Haddam, Am. M. Hall, Dana W.
 WARD, Samuel G. Southbury, Wm. B. Loom, Dasha B. Nye.
 CARY, Haddam, Ira Hutchinson, D. H. Calk.
 CLINTON, Charles Smith, Francis G. Ed. Killingworth, Rufus Turner.
 GIBSON, Geo. O. Jarvis, Saybrook, Am. H. King.
 CROOK, G. H. Albroeky, Westbrook, ———.
 CLINTON, Josiah Olcott, Josiah Byles, Essex, Alanson H. Hough, F. W. Shepard.

TOLLAND COUNTY.

JABEZ L. WHITE, Jr. M. D. Bolton, *Chairman*.ABRAHAM LADD, M. D. Tolland, *Clerk*.

TOLLAND, Abijah Ladd, Oliver K. Adams, Mansfield, Paul Smith, Norman Brigham.
 BOLTON, Jabez L. White, Jr., One Hunt, William H. Richardson.
 JAMES C. MALE, Stafford, Joseph C. Dow, J. C. Hodges.
 COLUMBIA, ———, William N. Clark.
 CANTON, Eleazer Hunt, T. Danesi, Southington, Orono Wood, Erskine Hambleton.
 ELLINGTON, Allen Hyde, Harrison Dow, Union, Horner Lindsay.
 HEBRON, JOHN S. PETERS, Otis C. Vernon, Seymour Buckley, A. Skinner.
 WHITE, Charles D. Day, Jr., Willington, ———, Dickerson.

SUMMARY OF ORDINARY MEMBERS.

	Trouble	Not Troubled	Total	1877.
Hartford County,	73	4	77	112
New Haven, "	58	4	62	136
New London, "	47	9	56	58
Fairfield, "	43	2	45	58
Windham, "	32	2	34	35
Litchfield, "	49	5	54	35
Middlebury, "	21	1	22	33
Tolland, "	21	2	23	35
	391	31	424	487.

DISSEMINATIONS READ IN CONVENTIONS

1791. Dr. S. H. P. Lee—on Anterior Bilious Fever.
 " Dr. Gideon Shepard—on the Properties of Opium.
 1793. Dr. F. P. Osgood—on the Properties of Antimony.
 " Dr. Theodosius Harris—on the Different Species of Cholera.
 1796. Dr. F. P. Osgood—on the Contagion of Yellow Fever.
 " Dr. S. H. P. Lee—on *Cynancha Tenuifolia*.
 " Dr. Lewis Collins—on the most eligible mode of Increasing Medical Knowledge in this State.
 " Dr. Gideon Shepard—on the same subject.
 " Dr. James Potter—"An Oration."
 1798. Dr. Samuel Hopkins—on of Bilious Concretion.
 " Dr. James Potter—"An Essay."
 1799. Dr. Theodosius Clark—"a Dissertation."
 1800. Dr. Nathaniel Dwight—"a Lecture."
 1801. Dr. Samuel Wallcut—on the Stafford Mineral Waters.
 1817. Dr. W. R. Fowler—on the Deleterious Effects of Ardent Spirits.
 1818. Dr. William Buel—on Rigor.
 1820. Dr. Thomas Miner—on Typhus Fever.
 1821. Dr. Samuel Röschel—on Urinary Hemorrhage.
 1822. Dr. William Tully—on the Yellow Fever of Middletown.
 1823. Dr. David T. Beantch.
 1827. Dr. Samuel S. Woodward—on the Biography of the Physicians of this State.
 1829. Dr. George Sumner—on Extra-uterine Conception.
 1830. Dr. Charles Hooker—on Diseases of the Ear.
 1833. Dr. Benjamin Welch, Jr.—on the Vitality of the Blood.
 1835. Dr. E. H. Bishop—on the Influence of Moral Emotions on Disease.
 1837. Dr. Archibald Welch—on Scarlet Fever.
 1838. Dr. Isaac G. Potter—on that form of Neuralgia commonly denominated Spinal Intermittent.
 1839. Dr. Henry Brown—on the Mental Qualifications necessary to a Physician.
 1841. Dr. Richard Warner—on the Advantages of prompt and efficient practice in Acute Diseases.
 1842. Dr. Amariah Brigham—on Insanity as a subject of Medical Jurisprudence.

DUTIES OF THE CLERKS

- To take the prescribed oath of office.
 To warn the County meetings.
 To enroll all the Physicians practicing in the County, and notify them thereof.
 To record the proceedings of the County meetings.
 To collect the fees and pay the same to the Treasurer.
 To transmit to the Secretary a list of the elected Fellows, and the papers recommended as a candidate for a gratuitous course of lectures, immediately after the County meetings for publication.
 To make certificates of Fellowship, to be transmitted to the Secretary, on or before the first day of the Convention.
 To transmit duplicate lists of the Members of the Society to the Secretary and Treasurer, on or before the first day of the Convention, on penalty of five dollars for each neglect.
 To return the names of delinquent members of the Society.

CONSTITUTION

AND

BY-LAWS

OF THE

NEW HAVEN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

ADOPTED APRIL 25, 1842.

NEW HAVEN:

STURMAN & STARRS, PRINTERS.

1842



REMARKS.

THE NEW HAVEN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION was established in 1803, by Drs. AUGUST MOUSEN, LEVI IVES, OLADISH HATCHKINS, ELISHA CHAPMAN, JOEL NORTROP, JOHN BARKER, JOHN SKINNER, ELIJAH MOUSEN, ELI IVES, NATHANIEL HUBBARD, JOHN SPALDING, THOMAS GOODSELL, and JAMES GILBERT.

The objects of the Association, as expressed in the Constitution, are to establish the practice of medicine in this city, upon a respectable footing; to devise and carry into effect measures for our mutual improvement; and to prevent the introduction among us of quackery, in any of its various forms. How far the intentions of the founders of the Association have been fulfilled, will best be seen from the fact, that since its foundation, no physician of respectability, has ever established himself in the city, without becoming a member of the Association; and for a period of thirty-two years, but two of its members have withdrawn from its connection. The Association, as will be seen from its catalogue, numbers at this time eighteen, out of the twenty regular physicians in the city. It is confidently believed, that, from the manner of organization of the Association, and the way of conducting its meetings, it conduces more to raise the standard of the profession to that grade to which it is entitled, than any similar Association in the country. It is probably owing to this fact, that the physicians of New Haven are on better terms with each other, than in any other city in the Union.

The Constitution, as it now stands, is the same as at the foundation of the Association, with the exception of some important additions made within the past year, and closely taken from the Regulations of a similar Association in Boston.

At an adjourned meeting of the New Haven Medical Association, held April 25th, 1842, the committee on the Regulations and By-Laws reported; and

It was voted, That their report be accepted, and that the Clerk be authorized to procure a suitable book for the Constitution, &c.

The following preamble and articles are a true copy of those adopted by the Association, at the above named meeting.

Attest,

PLINY A. JEWETT, *Clerk.*

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS.

It is the object of this Association, in entering into the following Regulations, to establish the practice of Medicine and Surgery in this city, upon a respectable footing; to devise and carry into effect measures for our mutual improvement; to promote a good understanding, and harmonious intercourse with each other; and to avoid the injurious practice of doing business for a less compensation than our established prices; and to exclude from our Association every person who may obtrude himself among us, without a regular introduction and conformity to our established rules of practice.

ARTICLE I.

This Association shall be called the **NEW HAVEN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.**

ARTICLE II.

Regular meetings of this Association shall be held on the evening of every second Monday; and the meeting shall be opened within fifteen minutes after the time appointed. Special meetings shall be called by the clerk, at the suggestion of any three members, by sending notice to each member. Five members shall constitute a quorum, and two, when no more are present, shall have power to adjourn.

ARTICLE III.

Seniority shall be determined by professional age; and the oldest member present, at the opening of each meeting, shall be chairman. One shall be chosen annually at the first meeting in January, who shall act as clerk; and in his absence, the youngest member present at the opening of the meeting, shall act as clerk *pro tempore*.

ARTICLE IV.

At each regular meeting, the clerk shall read from the records of the Association, the minutes of the previous meeting; and the next business shall be for the members, so many of them as may wish, to state such cases as they may have, which may interest or benefit their brethren, and to obtain their opinions and advice.

ARTICLE V.

After the meeting is opened, no person shall be allowed to speak, but by permission from the Chair; and no member shall be allowed to digress from the subject under consideration; nor shall any person speak more than once on the same subject, unless for the purpose of explanation, or in reply to objections or arguments offered against him, and then only by permission from the Chair.

ARTICLE VI.

One or more questions shall be proposed at each regular meeting, for discussion at the next; and each member present, shall be called upon for his opinion on the question under consideration; or as a substitute, dissertations may be read by the members in course, or by appointment.

ARTICLE VII.

One member of the Association shall be appointed annually, at the first meeting in January, to prepare a list of deaths which may occur in the town during the year.

ARTICLE VIII.

The Regulations of the Association shall be submitted for inspection, to all candidates for medical and surgical practice in this city, with whom the members of the State Medical

Secretary may lawfully consult; and the clerk shall be charged with the execution of this regulation, with which he shall comply in every instance, so soon as he shall have learnt that any such candidate may have established himself in the city; and said candidate, after signifying his wish to be admitted, shall be proposed at a meeting previous to that of his admission; and it shall require a vote of at least three fourths of the members present, to elect a new member.

ARTICLE IX.

If any member becomes acquainted with the conduct of another member, which he considers as a breach of the rules of the Association, or of medical police, it shall be his duty to make the same known to the Association in writing; and it shall be the duty of the clerk to transmit a copy of such charges, with the rule or regulation broken, to the offending member.

ARTICLE X.

If any member of this Association shall habitually absent himself from the meetings, without a satisfactory excuse, after due notice has been given him by the clerk, his name shall be erased from the records.

ARTICLE XI.

If any member of this Association shall be guilty of a breach of the regulations, or of any of the rules of medical police, his name may be erased from the records of the Association, unless he shall have made a satisfactory apology or explanation for his conduct.

ARTICLE XII.

If a physician be called to a patient who has usually been attended by another physician, on account of the urgency of the case, or the absence of the regular physician, he shall, be-

fore leaving, direct the latter to be sent for, to continue the attendance, if necessary; and in no case shall he continue his visits, unless he receive subsequent notice from the patient, that his continued attendance is required; and the physician requested to attend, shall explain the matter to the other, as soon as convenient.

ARTICLE XIII.

When a physician, engaged to attend a case of Midwifery, is absent, and another delivers the patient, the second shall receive the fee, and relinquish the patient to the first, if repeated subsequent visits are required. If the first arrive while the second is present, and before the patient is delivered, the second shall relinquish the patient to the first.

ARTICLE XIV.

In cases of Midwifery, when the child is born, and not the placenta, before the arrival of the accoucheur, the whole fee is to be charged. When both the child and placenta are born before the arrival of the accoucheur, half of the whole fee is to be charged, according to circumstances.

ARTICLE XV.

When circumstances permit, every physician shall present his account immediately after his attendance, in a case of sickness. This shall particularly be attended to, in cases of Midwifery. In ordinary cases of attendance in families, an account shall be presented every January; and it shall be an invariable custom to endeavor to settle all accounts in that month, or at least annually.

ARTICLE XVI.

Every candidate, at the time of becoming a member of the Association, shall sign the following obligation, which shall be in a book kept for that purpose, by the clerk. The undersign-

ed approve of the Regulations of the New Haven Medical Association, and agree upon their honor, to comply with the same.

ARTICLE XVII.

Physicians from the neighboring towns, that may wish to attend our meetings, and also regular members of our profession from abroad, may have the liberty, and may take part in the proceedings.

ARTICLE XVIII.

No rule or regulation of this Association shall be altered, amended, or repealed, nor any additional regulation adopted at any meeting, unless the proposed alteration or amendment has first been referred to a committee, who shall report on the same at a meeting, warned with express notice of the object, which meeting shall be held at a time not less than two weeks from the time of the first appointment of the committee. And no amendment or additional regulation shall be adopted, except by a vote of at least two thirds of the members present.

Voted, That the hours of meeting of the Association, shall be 6½ o'clock P. M. in the winter, 7 o'clock in the spring and autumn, and 7½ o'clock in the summer.

FEE TABLE.

Visit, - - - - -	\$1.00
" in consultation, - - - - -	2.00
" by night, (from 10 o'clock P. M. to 6 o'clock A. M.)	2.00
Obstetrics, (exclusive of visit previous or subsequent to parturition,) - - - - -	5.00
Emetic and Cathartic, each, - - - - -	.25
Gonorrhea, to be paid in advance, - - - - -	5.00
Syphilis, " " " " - - - - -	8.00
Travel per mile, within five miles, - - - - -	.25
Introducing Catheter, first time, - - - - -	1.50
" " subsequent, - - - - -	1.00
Extracting tooth and venesection, each, - - - - -	.50
Detention per hour, in addition to visit, - - - - -	1.00
" during night, - - - - -	5.00
Vaccination, for each individual, - - - - -	1.00
Revaccination, - - - - -	.50

MEMBERS

IN 1888

NEW HAVEN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

SINCE ITS FOUNDATION, JANUARY 5, 1860.

Annotations.—* Deceased. † Withdrawn from the Association. ‡ Left the city.
 H. M., Honorary Member.

1862.

*Ezra Benson,
 *Lori Ives,
 *Obadiah Henshaws,
 *Elisha Chapin,
 *Isid Northrop,
 *John Barker,
 John Skinner,
 *Elijah Monson,
 Eli Ives,
 *Nathaniel Hubbard,
 *John Spalding,
 †Thomas Goodsell,
 *James Gilbert.

1866.

†Henry Moul.

1868.

*John Tomlinson,
 *Elias Shipman.

1872.

Timothy P. Beers.

1873.

Jonathan Knight.

1818.

Samuel Parsonson,
 †Zera Hawley,
 †John Titworth,
 †A. S. Jones,
 *John Bennett,
 *Nathan Smith,
 Virgil M. Dow.

1820.

A. S. Monson,
 Charles Hooker.

1823.

†Alexander Woolcot.

1826.

*Selman Russell,
 Josiah F. Hunt.

1827.

*Mason P. Sanford.

1828.

U. T. Driscoll,
 N. B. Ives.

J. P. Herrick.

1825.

Leiser Keep, (Fair Haven.)

*Thomas Hubbard,

|William Tully.

1830.

|Henry D. Bulkeley,

James Swan, (Westville.)

1832.

|A. G. Bristol,

*H. A. Tomlinson,

|D. H. Moore,

|J. B. Blakeman,

E. H. Bishop,

*Lewis Herman, (H. M.)

1833.

|T. H. Waterman,

J. B. Robertson.

1834.

|T. B. Shelton.

1835.

P. T. Miller,

|M. D. Benedict.

J. H. Kim.

1837.

|S. F. Clarke,

|N. C. Baldwin,

|T. H. Totten,

J. A. Totten.

1838.

L. A. Thomas,

C. S. Thomas, (Fair Haven.)

|John L. Sullivan,

Levi Ives.

1839.

|James A. Bovey,

O. D. Goodrich,

H. B. Porter.

1840.

P. A. Jewett.

1841.

|W. K. Brown.

1842.

J. T. Hotchkiss.

PROCEEDINGS

AT THE

ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

CONN. MEDICAL SOCIETY,

MAY, 1844,

Together with a List of the Members,

AND ANNUAL ADDRESS.

HARTFORD:

J. R. GOODY, PRINTER.

MDCCLXIV.



PROCEEDINGS,

AT THE ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE PRESIDENT AND FELLOWS
OF THE CONNECTICUT MEDICAL SOCIETY, HELD AT THE MEDICAL
COLLEGE IN NEW HAVEN, MAY 8, 1844.

Certificates of the election of Fellows from the several
Counties were presented as follows:

Hartford County.

Theodore Sill, M. D.
Benjamin Rogers,
Julius B. Barnes, M. D.
George Sumner, M. D.
Ralph Cutler, M. D.

New Haven County.

Jonathan Knight, M. D.
Jos. Canfield, M. D.
Levi Ives, M. D.
P. A. Jewett, M. D.
Amrose Beardsley, M. D.

New London County.

Joseph Darby, M. D.
Washington Hooker, M. D.
Ashbel Woodward, M. D.
Elijah Dyer, M. D.
William Hyde, M. D.

Middlesex County.

*George O. Jarvis, M. D.
Frederic W. Shepard, M. D.
Harner Burr, M. D.

Windham County.

Moses Burgess, M. D.
Dyer Harker, M. D.
Lorenzo Martey, M. D.
Orin Water,
*Cyrus Balcham, M. D.

Fairfield County.

Elijah Middlebrook, M. D.
Rufus Blakeman, M. D.
A. L. Williams, M. D.
E. B. Middlebrook, M. D.
George Blakeman.

Litchfield County.

Johnston C. Halsey, M. D.
George Seymour, M. D.
Norman Lyman, M. D.
John A. Gillett, M. D.
Thomas S. Seelye, M. D.

Tolland County.

Oliver K. Isham, M. D.
Earl Swift, M. D.
Hercules Dow, M. D.

*Absent from the Convention.

The following officers were elected for the year ensuing,
viz:

LUTHER TICKNOR, M. D., *President.*

ALCHIBALD WELCH, M. D., *Vice President.*

V. M. DOW, M. D., *Treasurer.*

WORTHINGTON HOOKER, M. D., *Secretary.*

The report of the Treasurer was presented and accepted, and Drs. Hatch and Burgess were appointed a committee to audit the Treasurer's accounts.

Abstract of Treasurer's Report.

Amount of bad debts, two hundred and six dollars seventy five cents.

Amount of good debts,	720,79½
In Treasurer's hands,	32,35½
Total of assets,	\$753,15
Debentures outstanding,	\$279,25
Average disbursements,	93,70
Commissions for collecting what is due to the Society,	31,35½

In all, \$404,30½

Deducting this from the assets leaves, \$348,84½

Which is the net amount which the Society ought to have in the treasury after its dues are collected and its debts paid.

The report of the Committee of Examination was accepted and ordered to be printed with the proceedings of the Corporation.

The Standing Committee were elected as follows, viz:

LUTHER TICKNOR, M. D., <i>ex officio.</i>	} <i>Committee of Examination.</i>
CHARLES WOODWARD, M. D.,	
ALCHIBALD WELCH, M. D.,	
RALPH BLANCHARD, M. D.,	
WM. H. COGSWELL, M. D.,	

ELI IYER, M. D.,
 E. B. DORRILL, M. D.,
 RICHARD WALKER, M. D.,
 NORMAN LYMAN, M. D.,
 JAMES L. WHITE, JUN., M. D.,

*Committee
 to Nominate Phy-
 sicians of the Hos-
 pital for the In-
 stitute.*

ELIAS MIDDLEBROUGH, M. D.,
 WILLIAM S. PIERSON, M. D.,
 RICHARD WALKER, M. D.,
 ARTHUR WOODWARD, M. D.,
 HENRY C. BELLEFLORE, M. D.

*Committee to
 Nominate Profes-
 sors in the Medical In-
 stitute of Yale
 College.*

Report of the Committee appointed by the last Conven-
 tion to consider whether any alterations are necessary to be
 made in the act of incorporation of the Conn. Medical Society
 was presented and accepted.

Dr. Knight laid several propositions before the Convention,
 in relation to the By-Laws of the Society.

Resolved, That the report of the Committee on the Charter,
 and the propositions submitted by Dr. Knight, be referred to
 a Committee of one from a County, to report to-morrow
 morning, and that this be the order of the day for to-morrow
 at eight o'clock, A. M.

Dr. Knight, Sill, A. Woodward, E. Middlebrough, N. Ly-
 man, O. Witter, Shepard and Swift, were appointed on this
 Committee.

Dr. Barnes, Jewett, Durfee, Blakeman, Harts, Macy,
 Burr, and H. Dow, were appointed a Committee to nominate
 candidates for honorary degrees and honorary membership.

They nominated for the honorary degree of Doctor in Me-
 dicine, Benjamin Rogers, George Blackman, Olin Witter,
 and B. Manwaring, and for honorary membership, Allen
 Marth, of Albany, N. Y.

Committee to audit the Treasurer's account reported, that
 they had examined it and found it to be correct.

Resolved, That it be a standing rule that whenever the
 report of the Treasurer is accepted, the sum of \$10 be paid to
 him without the formality of a vote.

Dr. N. B. Ives was appointed dissertator for the next Convention.

Resolved, That the Secretary be requested to furnish Mr. Green, publisher of the Annual Register, with a copy of the proceedings of this Convention.

The Committee appointed in regard to a Prize Essay, reported that the subject "Scarlatina," had been proposed and the prize offered, but that no dissertations had as yet been received.

Resolved, That the same subject be continued till March 1st, 1845, and that the dissertations be sent to the same Committee for examination and award.

This Committee consists of Drs. Silas Fuller, E. Ives, and J. Knight.

A dissertation was read by Dr. W. Hooker, on the respect due to the Medical Profession, and the reasons that it is not awarded by the community.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention be presented to Dr. Worthington Hooker for his able and interesting address, and that a copy be requested for publication.

Voted, That we adjourn to to-morrow morning at 8 o'clock.

MAY NINTH.

Met according to adjournment.

The Committee to whom was referred the report of the Committee on the Charter, and the propositions submitted by Dr. Knight, reported that it is not expedient to apply to the Legislature for any alteration of the Charter. They reported also several additions to the By-Laws of the Society, which were adopted. They are as follows:

The Members of the Society, at any County Meeting legally holden, may, by a major vote of the members present, admit to membership in the Society any person regularly

licensed to practice physic and surgery, and practicing in said County, who shall make application for that purpose.

They may, by a similar vote, dismiss from the Society any member who shall remove from this State, or who shall leave the profession for other pursuits.

They may also, if they deem it expedient, recommend to the President and Fellows of the Society, for dismissal from the same, any member residing in their respective Counties, who shall apply for such dismissal by a written request in that effect delivered to the Clerk of the County Meeting, at least ten days before the time of holding any legal County Meeting; and upon the approval of such recommendation by the President and Fellows in Convention, the connection between such member and the Society shall be dissolved.

Provided, that no member shall be dismissed from the Society until all his taxes shall have been paid.

All violations of the By-Laws of the Society, or of the Medical Police adopted by the Society, or of the Rules and Regulations passed by the County Meetings, in conformity with the By-Laws of the Society, may be presented and tried by the Members of the Society, in their respective County Meetings, under the following resolutions, &c.

The Member assuming anothered a violation of any of the before-mentioned Regulations, shall make a statement in writing of the transaction which he deems a misdemeanor, and lay the same before a Fellow of the Society; and such Fellow shall issue a notification to the accused, to appear before the next County Meeting, stating the time when, and the place where, it is to be held, to defend, if he see fit, against said accusation. A copy of such accusation and notification shall be left with the accused, or at his last usual place of abode, at least twelve days previous to the time of holding the next County Meeting. And the accused shall cause the said accusation and notification to be served and returned to the Clerk of the County Meeting, on or before

the day of their sitting; and the offender, upon conviction, may be punished by admonition, by suspension from the privileges of the Society for a period not exceeding two years, or by expulsion from the Society.

Provided, That no sentence of expulsion shall be valid, until confirmed by the President and Fellows, in Convention.

If any Member of the Society shall make, vend, or publicly recommend any nostrum or patent medicine, and be thereof convicted, he shall be suspended from the privileges of the Society or expelled.

No Member of the Society shall hold professional consultation or intercourse with any other than licensed Physicians and Surgeons, in regular standing.

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to revise the By-Laws, and report to the next Convention.

Des. Knight, Eli Ives, and V. M. Dow were appointed.

Resolved, That a tax of one dollar be laid on each Member of this Society, for the year ensuing, payable on or after the first of June next.

Resolved, That it be a standing rule, that the session of the Convention, as recommended by the last Convention, be continued two days; the first day to be devoted to the consideration of such subjects, connected with the advancement of Medical Science, as may be proposed by the Fellows present; and the second day to the ordinary business of the Convention.

Resolved, That all the Members of the State Medical Society be requested to attend the meetings of the Convention, and to partake of the dinner on the first day of the session.

The following was proposed by Dr. Jewett, as a By-Law:

The Standing Committees of this Society, viz, the Committee of Examination, the Committee to nominate Physician of the Retreat for the Insane, the Committee to nominate Professors in the Medical Institution of Yale College, shall be elected for three years; and any By-Law to the contrary shall be hereby repealed.

Resolved, That this By-Law be published with the proceedings of the Convention, and be laid over for the consideration of the next Convention.

Resolved, That Drs. A. Welch, E. H. Hunt, and Sill, be a Committee to take into consideration the subject of a Hospital for Insane, and report on the same at the next Convention.

The report of the Committee on Debentures was presented and accepted, and the bill ordered to be paid.

Resolved, That the subject "Scarlatina," be continued to the next Convention.

The Students recommended by the County Meetings for gratuitous attendance on the ensuing Course of Lectures in the Medical Institution of Yale College, are, George Freeman, Hartford; Hiram H. Lewis, Windham; Joseph Russell, Tolland; Sylvester Turner, Middlesex; Llewellyn W. Woods, Litchfield; Amos G. Avery, New London; Benjamin M. Fowler, New Haven; Samuel S. Ruggles, Fairfield.

Adjourned *sine die*.

Attest;

W. HOOKER, *Secretary*.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

*FELIX PASCALIS,	New York.
JAMES JACKSON,	Boston, Mass.
JOHN C. WARREN,	" "
*SAMUEL L. MITCHELL,	New York.
*DAVID HOSACK,	" "
*WRIGHT POST,	" "
BENJAMIN SILLIMAN,	New Haven.
GEORGE MCLELLAN,	Philadelphia, Pa.
*JOHN MACKIE,	Providence, R. I.
*CHARLES ELDREDGE,	East Greenwich, R. I.
THEODORE ROMEYN BECK,	Albany, N. Y.
JAMES THATCHER,	Plymouth, Mass.
*JOSEPH WHITE,	Cherry Valley, N. Y.
*WM. F. DEWEES,	Philadelphia, Pa.
EDWARD DELAFIELD,	New York.
JOHN DELAWATER,	Little Falls, N. Y.
WALTER CHANNING,	Boston, Mass.
JACOB BIGELOW,	" "
*PHILIP SYNG PHYSICK,	Philadelphia, Pa.
*LEWIS BERGMANN,	U. S. Navy.
DANIEL DRAKE,	Cincinnati, Ohio.
HENRY MITCHELL,	Norwich, N. Y.
NATHAN RYNO SMITH,	Calhoun, Md.
VALENTINE MOTT,	New York.
SAMUEL WHITE,	Hudson, N. Y.
REUBEN D. HESSEY,	Cincinnati, Ohio.
WM. TULLY,	New Haven.
RICHMOND BROWNELL,	Providence, R. I.
WM. DEAMONT,	U. S. Army.
SAMUEL HENRY DICKSON,	Charleston, S. C.
SAMUEL B. WOODWARD,	Worcester, Mass.
JOHN STEARNS,	New York.
STEPHEN W. WILLIAMS,	Deerfield, Mass.
HENRY GREEN,	Albany, N. Y.
GEORGE FROST,	Springfield, Mass.
WILLARD PARKER,	New York.
BENAJAH TICKNOR,	U. S. Navy.
BEL ABBOT,	Westfield, Mass.

*Deceased.

ORDINARY MEMBERS.

The names of those Members who are exempt from taxation by age, are in Italics; the names of those who have been Presidents of the Society, are in Capitals.

HARTFORD COUNTY.

ABERNATH WELCH, M. D., Wethersfield, Chairman.

GURDON W. RUSSELL, M. D., Hartford, Clerk.

HARTFORD, <i>SILAS FULLER</i>	Wethersfield, Pastor, Jas H. Munroe.
George Sumner, David S.	Wapping, William Woods.
Dodge, Henry Halcom, S. B.	ECCLIA, J. P. CHURCH, A. L.
Remond, G. B. Hawley, E.	Spalding.
E. Marty, G. W. Russell, D.	FARMINGTON, Asahel Thompson,
vid Gray, P. W. Ellsworth,	E. W. Cunningham, Julius W.
Benjamin Rogers, E. K. Hunt,	Ida, Channing Brown.
Samuel B. Fuller, Samuel	GLASTONBURY, Ralph Carter.
Rank, Seth Salisbury, John	South Glastonbury, — Andrus,
S. Butler, Thos. B. Kirtland,	Brown, Hasty.
H. A. Grant, Samuel B. Lee,	Easton, Sabin Seabring.
West Hartford, Edward Bruce,	GRANT, Julius Carr, Joseph F.
Lemuel Wake.	Jewett.
AVON, Alfred Kellogg.	North Glastonbury, Josiah C. Ban-
BERTIS, Harriet Gridley, Syl-	vine.
vester Ballley, E. Brandager,	East Glastonbury, Chester Hanson.
Jr.	West Glastonbury, James D. Wilson.
NEW BRITAIN, Samuel Hunt, Lu-	HARTLAND, Will. H. Huggins.
cina Woodruff, E. D. Ell-	MANCHESTER, Wm. G. Williams,
cock.	Barnum, Mcintosh, William
BLOOMFIELD, John Wells.	Woodbridge.
BROOK, Jared W. Pardee, Jo-	MANCHESTER, L. W. McIntosh.
seph W. Camp.	SOMERSET, Augustus L. Case, R.
BERLINGTON, William Fields,	A. White.
Wm. Eboe, 2d., Jeremiah Bar-	TARZEVILLE, George W. Sanford.
well.	SOMERVILLE, John S. Barnes,
CANTON, Betsey Ann Kamm, Tho-	Frederick A. Hunt.
mas G. Hazen.	SUFFIELD, Asaph L. Russell, S.
CHILINVILLE, Simeon W. Brown,	Jess.
R. H. Tifany.	WETHERSFIELD, A. Welch, E.
EAST HARTFORD, Timothy Hall,	F. Cooke, Asahel Robertson.
Frederic Brownell, Eli Hall.	ROCKY HILL, Asahel W. Bayless.
EAST WINDSOR, Elijah F. Reed,	WINDSOR, William S. Pierpont,
Horace C. Gillette, Salacey	Theodore Sill, Henry C. Pen-
Rackwell.	ing.
SOMERICK, Hiram Watson.	

NEW HAVEN COUNTY.

REYNOLD WATKINS, M. D., Madison, Chairman.

OLIV JEWETT, M. D., New Haven, Clerk.

New Haven, John Blaine, Ed.	North Madison, G. E. Perkins.
Jess. Jonathan Knight, T. T.	Mottus, B. H. Cullis, G. Bar-
Beers, Samuel Parsons, Y.	ber.
M. Day, Alfred S. Thomas, U.	Middlebury, Jacob Lindsey, Rob-
Hanks, Henry E. Potter, N. B.	ert Crane.
Jess. E. H. Decker, D. H. Moore,	Middletown, Andrew French, Hall
E. D. Knapp, J. Augustus Tor-	Allen, Lucius N. Boardley.
ton, P. T. Miller, L. A. Tamm,	North Branford, Sheldon Board-
Levi Lee, Ping A. Jewett, J.	ley.
Thomson, Hordkins, J. D.	North Haven, Amos Moody,
Whitely, L. D. Wilburton,	Chauncey B. Fogg, Geo. A.
D. L. Bennett, G. O. Sargent,	Mundy.
C. L. Whitem, D. A. Tyler,	Oxford, N. Stree, J. Leominster.
Wentworth, Samuel Lloyd,	Orange, P. N. Carver.
Watkins, Wm. C. Lay,	Prospect, Aaron Austin.
Watkins, Am. L. Deery,	Simsbury, Anthony B. Burritt.
Dexter, Josiah M. Collins, W. J.	South Britain, Nathan C. Bal-
Wentworth,	win.
Branford, Andrew Boardley,	Wallingford, Lyman Parker, B.
Hampden, Almon Stet-	P. Harrison.
son, William C. Johnson, J.	Waterbury, Joseph Porter, Daniel
Kent, Thomas Stockard,	Porter, M. C. Leavenworth,
East Haven, Bela Farabee,	Henry Benson, David Pritch-
Fair Haven, Luther Kerp, C. S.	ard, G. L. Platt.
Thomson,	Naugatuck, Timothy Langdon,
Groton, Joel Oakfield, Eliza-	J. D. Moore.
Hutchinson, Alvan Talbot,	Woodbridge, Isaac Goodell, An-
Middletown, Reginald Webb-Edward	drew Castle.
Perce,	Wolcott, Henry Brington.
	Southern, A. C. Woodward.

NEW LONDON COUNTY.

AVERY DOWNS, M. D., Preston, Chairman.

RUFUS W. MATHERSON, M. D., Norwich, Clerk.

New London, Archibald Menor,	ker, Chauncey Burgess, Elijah
Dyer, T. Broadard, Nathaniel	Dyer, Jr., Joseph Peabody, E.
S. Perkins, James Morgan, I.	Plimery, B. T. Smith, Rufus
G. Pomeroy, William W. Miner,	W. Mathereson, J. W. Brooks,
Norwich, B. P. Tracy, Ralph	B. Farbyce Barker, Asahel B.
Farmer, Wm. Washington Bos-	Hale.

Borah, Samuel Johnson.	Hamberg, John C. M. Brook-
Colchester, Ezekiel W. Parsons.	way.
Frederick Morpew.	Phonetic Valley, William W. J.
East Lyme, John L. Smith, Am-	Wesson.
er F. Perkins.	Merrillville, Robert P. Palmer, H.
Franklin, Asahel Woodruff.	C. Beardsley.
Glenfield.	Unsworth, Elizabeth R. Gay, J.
Jewett City, Lucius Tyler, James	C. Bates.
M. Smith.	North Strongsville, Thomas P.
Groton, John O. Miner, Joseph	Ward, A. W. Green.
Darley.	Peotom, Avery Dwyer, Eleazar
Porterville, Benjamin F. Stab-	B. Dwyer.
ard, Elias F. Coats.	Piquetstown, Abner Fuller, C.
Lebanon, Joseph Comstock, F.	S. Arty.
Oxford, J. H. Hastings, R. P.	Salon, J. P. Fulton.
Green.	Scoutsville, W. Robinson, Wil-
Ledyard, Robert A. Hastings.	son Hyde, O. E. Palmer.
Lisbon, Yusef Smith.	William Hyde, Jr.
Lyme, Richard Noyes, John	Hyatt, Mary Hastings.
Noyes, Shubael F. Barlow.	Warrington, James Brown.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY

ELIAS MIDDLEBROOK, M. D. TOWNSHIPS' CHAIRMAN.

S. P. V. R. TEN BRUCK, M. D. TOWNSHIPS' CLERK.

FAIRFIELD, Jeremiah T. Deane.	Erwin, George Judson, Thos.
S. P. V. R. Ten Bruck, Rufus	as Deane, William Erwin.
Balderson.	Norwalk, John A. McLean, E.
Southport, James Sherwood.	Brink, Ed. Greeny.
Bridgewater, Samuel Stevens, D.	Robinson, Charles Graham.
H. Nash, Samuel Booth, Wm	Edgewood, Nelson's Perry, D.
L. Watson.	Bar.
Brookfield, Noah A. Lacey, A.	Sherman, David W. Newburg.
L. Williams, Edwin Lacey.	Smethport, Chauncey Allen, S.
Danbury, David Comstock, R. B.	D. Hough.
Keasford, E. P. Bennett.	Southport, Wm. T. Swanton, J.
Bethel, H. N. Bennett.	Gashong.
Danora, Warren Preval.	Transton, ELIAS MIDDLE-
Greenwich, Batten F. White, D.	BROOK, Stephen Middle-
Head.	brook, George Dyer, W. R.
Huntington, James H. Shelton.	Middlebrook.
Merrill, Stages Bickley, Salzer	Wesson, David S. Sider, James
H. Hall.	Bethel.
New Canaan, Samuel S. Noyes,	Wenpan, George Dickinson, J.
Levi Belknap.	James.
New Fairfield, David S. Bam-	Wilson, David Willard, Sylvester
um, Sydney Lyman.	Head.
Newtown, Cyrenus H. Booth, E.	

WINDHAM COUNTY.

HENRY HOBBS, M. D., Canterbury, Chairman.

JAMES B. WHITMAN, M. D., Brooklyn, Clerk.

Bromley, Robert P. Church, J.	Plainfield, Mory Burgess, Wm.
B. Whitcomb, Wm. Huchins.	H. Coggeswell, W. H. Campbell.
Ashford, John H. Simmons, E.	Pemfret, Lewis Williams.
Shaler.	Shington, Cyrus Hutchins, E.
Eastford, Rudric Stedens.	Williams.
Canterbury, Elijah Balfour, J.	Pemfret Landing, O. Sumner.
Palmer, Nathan Adams.	Thompson, Samuel Brown.
Clayton, Olin Wines.	Volanters, Harry Campbell.
Hampden, Dyer Higgins, Francis.	Windham, Chester Hunt, Wm.
A. Brewster.	Wash.
Killingly, Justin Hammon, P.	Windsor, Wm. Water, Oliver
H. Pickman.	Kingsley, Jr.
South Killingly, Daniel A. Ho-	Southard, Calvin B. Bromley.
vey.	Woodstock, Ann Wines, Lorenzo
West Killingly, David E. Hall.	Mussey, Eleazer Litchfield,
S. Huchins.	Milton Bradford.
North Killingly, Henry W.	Seeling, Nathan Pike.
Hunt.	

LITCHFIELD COUNTY.

CHARLES VAN, M. D., Washington, Chairman.

J. G. BECKWITH, M. D., Litchfield, Clerk.

Litchfield, WILLIAM BURL.	Gaylord's Bridge, Gamaliel B.
Samuel Beal, Josiah G. Beck-	St. John.
with, R. M. Washburn, Besja.	Goshen, Harvey Baldwin, A. M.
min Welch, Jr., Geo. Seymour.	Huxley.
South Ferris, G. H. Miner.	North Goshen, H. V. Beach.
Northfeld, F. S. Woodward, D.	Hartington, F. B. Woodward.
B. W. Camp.	Keet, Wells Boarding, Jackson
Barkhamsted, P. B. Graham.	C. Hatch, Eliza Osborn.
Batham, Lucius North.	New Hartford, North, Myron R.
Bridgewater, Horace Johnson.	Hallard.
Canaan, A. A. Woods, Geo. Ad-	New Milford, Jehiel Williams,
ams.	George O. Taylor, Wm. B.
South Canaan, John A. Gillett.	Lenny.
Chauncy Reed, Jr.	Norfolk, Benjamin Welch, Wm.
Canaan, Barritt B. North.	W. Welch.
West Canaan, Samuel W.	Plymouth, Samuel T. Salisbury.
Gill.	Phonoth Hollow, Wm. W.
North Canaan, John Scovell.	Woodruff.
Colebrook, Wm. B. DeForest.	Rocky, Myron Dimes.

Salisbury, Luther Tucker, O. W.	Washington, Rogers M. Farber.
Parish.	New Providence, Charles Vail.
Parsonage Village, William James	Gray H. Lyman, Edward P.
Berry.	Lyman.
Savon, Ralph Denney, Nathan	Weston, John De Forest.
S. Perry.	Winchester, William Carlington.
Ellsworth, Elmore Everett.	W. C. Calkins.
Walden, Erastus Bancroft.	Woodbury, Samuel P. Starr.
O. B. Freeman.	and Charles H. Webb, Thomas
Warren, Norman Lyman.	T. Cox.
Weston, Marly Peter.	Troy, W. Charles Brynston.

MIDDLEBURY TOWNSHIP.

RICHARD WARREN, M. D., Middlebury, Chairman.

Wm. B. Cady, M. D., Middlebury, Clerk.

Middlebury, Richard Warren.	and William, Eliza B. Nye.
Joseph Bartlett, Thomas Miner.	Hartford, Ira Hatchman, J. P.
Charles Woodford, Wm. B.	Irving.
Cady, F. Woodruff.	Ellington, Rufus Turner.
Clarkson, Charles Smith, Francis	Portland, Geo. O. Jarvis.
G. Edgerton.	Sackett, Am. H. King.
Clutter, Ambrose Pratt.	East, Alvina D. Hough, Freder-
Clinton, L. P. Brockton.	ick W. Shepley.
Durham, Seth L. Child.	Dodge River, Rufus Baker.
East Hudson, Am. M. Holt, Dr.	Woodruff, Horace Dan-

TOLLAND COUNTY.

EARL SWIFT, M. D., Mansfield, Chairman.

AMASA LANE, M. D., Tolland, Clerk.

TOLLAND, Abijah Lusk, Oliver	Mansfield, Earl Swift, Norman
K. Ebbett.	Bryant, William H. Richard-
Belling, Jabez L. White, Jr. Co-	son.
in Hill, C. F. Sumner.	Sumner, Oren Wood, Erskine
Columbia, Warren A. Fuller.	Hamilton.
Corry, Ebenezer Hunt.	Stafford, Joseph C. Dow, J. C.
South Corry, Timothy Dic-	Blodget, William N. Clark, S.
ock.	Carpenter, E. J. Pomeroy.
Ellington, Allen Hyde, Har-	Union, Ebenezer Lindsey.
bor.	Yonkers, S. George Haskins, Al-
Bellevue, JOHN S. PETERSON	den Skinner, Wm. Scott.
and C. White, Charles Downer, J.	Willington, Francis L. Dickin-
O. Leomin, - Carver, - Plam-	son.
on, J. R. Dow.	

SUMMARY OF MEMBERS

	Taxable	Not Taxable	Total
Hartford County	79	0	81
New Haven "	70	0	76
New London "	51	7	58
Fairfield "	38	3	51
Lockfield "	51	7	58
William "	34	2	36
Middlesex "	22	0	22
Tolland "	26	4	30
	378	34	412

NOTE.—It should be observed that, though the list of Members contains all that have been returned as Members by the different Clerks, those that have been added to the list since the report of the eighth section cannot be legal Members of the Society, until voted in under the By-Law passed by the Convention of this year, and found among its proceedings.

DUTIES OF CLERKS

- To warn the County Meetings.
- To record the proceedings of the County Meetings.
- To collect the taxes and pay the same to the Treasurer.
- To transmit to the Secretary a list of the elected Fellows, and the person recommended as a candidate for a gratuitous course of lectures immediately after the County Meetings, for publication.
- To make certificates of Fellowship, to be transmitted to the Secretary, on or before the first day of the Convention.
- To transmit duplicate lists of the Members of the Society to the Secretary and Treasurer, on or before the first day of the Convention, on the penalty of five dollars for each neglect.
- To return the names of delinquent Members of the Society.

DISCUSSIONS READ IN CONVENTIONS.

1794. Dr. S. H. Lee, on Acute and Bilious Fevers.
- Dr. Gideon Stegworthy, on the Properties of Opium.
1795. Dr. F. T. Osborn, on the Preparation of Mercury.
- Dr. Theobald Butler, on the Different species of Colic.
1796. Dr. F. P. Osborn, on the Origin of Yellow Fever.
- Dr. S. H. P. Lee, on Gynaecic Tumours.
- Dr. Lewis Collins, on the most eligible mode of increasing Medical Knowledge in this State.
- Dr. Gideon Stegworthy, on the same subject.
- Dr. James Potter, "An Oration."
1798. Dr. Samuel Hopkins, on the Bilious Constitution.
- Dr. James Potter, "An Essay."
1799. Dr. Theobald Clark, a Dissertation.
1800. Dr. Nathaniel Dwight, on Lasciv.
1804. Dr. Samuel Willard, on the Suffered Mineral Waters.
1817. Dr. W. H. Fowler, on the deleterious effects of Ardent Spirits.
1818. Dr. William Esch, on Erysip.
1820. Dr. Thomas Hunt, on Typhus Fever.
1821. Dr. Samuel Eschscholtz, on Venous Hemorrhage.
1822. Dr. William Tully, on the Yellow Fever of Middlesex.
1823. Dr. Dyer T. Colman.
1827. Dr. Samuel B. Woodworth on the Biography of the Physicians of this State.
1829. Dr. George Sumner, on Extraneous Conception.
1830. Dr. Charles Hecker, on Diseases of the Ear.
1835. Dr. Benjamin Welch, Jr., on the Vitality of the Blood.
1836. Dr. E. H. Bishop, on the Influence of Moral Emotions on Disease.
1837. Dr. Amos Welch, on Scarlet Fever.
1838. Dr. Isaac G. Porter, on the Effects of Neuralgia, commonly denominated Spinal Influenza.
1839. Dr. Henry Brown, on the Mental qualifications necessary to a Physician.

1840. Dr. Richard Warner, on the Advantages of prompt and efficient practice in Acute Diseases.
 1841. Dr. Amariah Bright, on Insanity as a subject of Medical Jurisprudence.
 1842. Dr. Charles Woodward, on Vaccine Inoculation.
 1843. Dr. Parbury W. Ellsworth.
 1844. Dr. Warrington Harker, on the respect due to the Medical Profession, and the reasons that it is not awarded by the community.
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REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXAMINATION.

Your Committee have discharged their duties by attending the annual examination of candidates for Degrees and Degrees at the Medical Institution of Yale College, commencing on the 17th of January, and continuing three days.

All the Members of the Committee on the part of this Society, also all the Professors of the Institution, were present, constituting a full Board.

The Annual Address to the Candidates was delivered by Dr. Webb, Vice-President of this Society, as reference to which is deemed as only to say, it was appropriate to the occasion—containing many valuable and practical suggestions, which were earnestly heard with much pleasure by all, and we doubt not with much profit by the Initiates.

The Valedictory Address was delivered by Abner H. Brown, a candidate for a Degree. It was an able Address, and apparently well received by the audience. Dr. Charles Woodward was appointed to deliver the Address to the Candidates in January, 1845, and Dr. William H. Coggswell was appointed his substitute.

Eighteen candidates, who had attended two full courses of Lectures, and complied with the other legal requirements, were admitted to the degree of Doctor of Medicine; and

five who had attended but one course resolved to return to practice.

The following is a list of the candidates, and the subjects of their dissertations:

Garwood Hervey Atwood, Advantages of General Science to the Physician.

Nehemiah Banks, Rubella.

Edwin Curtis Bolwell, Pathology of Drunkenness.

Nathan Taylor Birren, Importance of correct Diagnosis.

Abner Hartwell Brown, Voluntary Aids.

Henry Lucien Wokeman Burnett, Animal Heat, Digestion and Motus in Chemical Action.

Christopher Smith Penner, Lithumay.

Gresham Clark Hyde Gilbert, Ulcers.

Norman Knut Johnson, Scarlatina.

Amos Earl, True Philosophy of Medicine.

William Strickler McCorkle, Varicella.

George Amos Mosely, Indica.

Francis Allyn Olmsted, Use of Narcotics in the Treatment of Insanity.

David Alonzo Tyler, Delirium tremens Corymbosum et Canaliculans.

Charles Lewis Thoburn, Hydrocephalus.

John Prune Wells, Typhoid Fever.

William Joseph Whiting, Phymosis.

William Woodbridge, Moral Influence in the Treatment of Disease.

For Licenses

Henry Eugene Dillale, General Diagnosis.

William Frederick Lacey, Cynanche Trachealis.

Sidney Williams Backwell, Present Phases of Empiricism.

Lucius Clark Watson, Congestive Bilious Fever.

Asa Curtis Woodward, Scarlatina.

The appearance of the candidates before the Board was highly creditable to themselves and the Institution, though

all did not appear equally well versed in the theory of the Science, and there were those we could wish were better prepared in some of its branches. Still none appeared so deficient as to induce the Board, in the conscientious discharge of their duty, to withhold their Degrees or Licenses. They generally appeared familiar with the fundamental principles, and as a class your Committee feel assured they will prove an acquisition and an ornament to the profession.

The Committee of last year, in their report, called the attention of the Convention to the claims of the Medical Institution of Yale College upon the medical profession of this State. It is our Institution, and it should be considered one of the duties of this Convention to acquaint itself with its condition—to know its interests—and devise means for their promotion. It is for us to see that instruction is afforded there adequate to the wants of the State; for so long as the laws enacted by our Legislature require that each student shall attend a course of Lectures before being admitted into the profession—in long as we control the appointment of the Professors, and retain the power of admitting or rejecting all who may apply for admission to the honors and privileges of the profession—we, as a Society, through this Convention, must be held responsible, and justly so, for the means afforded to individuals of this State, to enter the profession with such qualifications as will enable them to compete successfully with those from other sections and other institutions.

The competition among the various institutions, particularly in our larger cities, is very great. They are thereby induced to select teachers of great erudition and popular talents. They hold out many apparent advantages, not to say allurements, to the medical student.

But we have yet to learn that they give more practical instruction, or better prepare the student to discharge the varied and responsible duties of a Physician, than our own In-

stitution, where, in many respects, superior advantages are afforded. The extensive Chemical Laboratory—the great and choice collection of Minerals and Anatomical preparations—the abundant supply of subjects for public and private dissection—place facilities in the hands of the Student for pursuing these branches of the Natural Sciences, probably unequalled in our country. These, together with the known talents, fidelity, experience, and practical knowledge of its Professors, will warrant us in saying to the medical students of this State, that they have no occasion to look abroad for those opportunities, which will enable them to be prepared to enter successfully the arena of competition.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

LUTHER TICKNOR, *President*



DISSERTATION.

ON THE RESPECT DUE TO THE MEDICAL PROFESSION, AND
THE REASONS THAT IT IS NOT AWARDED
BY THE COMMUNITY.

By WORTHINGTON HOOKER, M. D.

[Read at the Annual Meeting, May 8, 1844.]

THE relation which the physician sustains to the community is one of great responsibility and importance. In the magnitude of the interests depending upon it, it bears no comparison with any of the numerous relations of man to his fellow-man, except it be that of the ambassador of the cross; but it stands out in bold contrast with them. They have regard, for the most part, only to comfort, convenience and wealth; but this to health and life. It is true, the relation of the lawyer does sometimes rise above the common level of minor and temporary interests, when some great principle of right is called in question, and especially when the life of a fellow-man depends on his exertions. But this is only occasionally; while the physician has the issues of life and death hanging every day upon the efforts which he is making, in the ordinary rounds of his business.

Besides the dread responsibilities thus resting on the physician, there are other circumstances which add to the interesting character of his relation to society. He is admitted freely into the very bosom of families in every walk of life. He is to them the familiar friend, as well as the physician;

and when, in the course of years, he has been with them in seasons both of death and recovery, of sorrow and of joy, of urgent danger and then of relief and escape, the mutual attachment is often deep and tender. When we witness this in a single case, it stamps a high interest on the relation of the physician. But when we see it multiplied by the great number of such cases, accumulating in an extensive and long-continued practice, this interest becomes a vast aggregate, making his station one of preëminent importance.

Add to all this one other circumstance—the extent and variety of opportunity which the physician has for the exercise of an active benevolence. No one gives more real and arduous service to the public gratuitously than he does. The poor, who are always with us, and who, from their very poverty, are more apt to be sick, and to suffer more in their sickness from the want of comforts, and the necessary struggle with their circumstances, draw largely on his time and his exertions. And without boasting, we can truly say of our profession, that when these are not cheerfully given, it is an exception to a general rule. Physicians are, commonly, ardently benevolent; and the world, however unjust it may be in other respects, generally accords this to us.

Such high and exalting interests being thus clustered around the relation of the physician, if he be properly qualified for his work, so as to do his whole duty, and if, when thus qualified, he be regarded and treated by the community as one faithfully meeting such responsibilities should be, what dignity rests upon his station! Feeling that the confidence which he merits is reposed in him, he goes on with vigor and gladness in his career of mercy and usefulness, quickened to exertion, and not disturbed and borne down, by his anxieties and perplexities and cares. I refer not to that false confidence which the physician often obtains in common with the empiric—and I regret to say by

the same base means—but to that well-grounded and intelligent confidence which we see sometimes awarded to the high-minded and honorable physician. When this is both deserved and awarded, we have an realization the least ideal of the relation which the physician should sustain to society. But we have to lament that it is very seldom thus realized. And if this arose only from deficiency of qualifications on his part, and in just proportion to that deficiency, it would be well. But this is not true, either of individuals, or of the profession as a mass. Confidence is not reposed in proportion to the amount of merit, but it is to a great degree governed by whim and caprice; and the whole community do not regard an educated medical profession with that steady and intelligent esteem that they do the other professions.

Let us for a few moments examine the proofs of this assertion.

The first proof which I shall cite is the acknowledged fact, that there is more of quackery in medicine than in the professions of law and theology.¹ The evidences of this fact are palpable and numerous. The amount of quack advertisements in the papers of the day, indicate the enormous appetite of the people for empiricism. In one paper of twenty columns, I counted recently eleven filled with such advertisements. And the evil has of late years largely increased. Formerly you would see but a few secret nostrums advertised year after year, such as Andersen's Cough Drops and Moore's Essence of Life. But now there are new medicines constantly appearing in rapid succession, and going quickly through their several stages of rise, acme, and decline. Adventurers in this broad field of imposition spring up in abundance, and some are from our own ranks, which they have deserted, with the hope of making a fortune in a day, instead of plodding along through life in the poorly-compensated but noble duties of the true votary of medical science.

Quackery is far from being confined to the unlearned and ill-informed. Men of respectability and acknowledged good sense in other matters — men who would be sure to get the best legal advice, and to sit under the ministrations of a regularly-educated clergyman — are not only willing to take quack medicines, but they imbibed some of the wildest notions of the day, and employ the most ignorant empirics, and degrade the educated physician down to a level with them in their estimate of his professional character. The lawyer himself, though he sees his own profession hemmed in by the strict lines of a prescribed education, and by a formidable array of antiquated technicalities, thus opposing to the intrusion of quackery a firm though time-worn and moss-covered wall, that it cannot scale — even he is often seen encouraging in our profession empiricism of the grossest kind, and perhaps cheers on and assists an ignorant populace in pulling down our modern wall, which has been so recently built that its uniting cement is yet hardly dry. The legislator, too, appointed by the people as the protector of all those barriers which have been erected to guard them at every point against the evils of irresponsible ignorance and secret imposture, though faithful to his trust in relation to all other interests, and instinctively shrinking from jeopardizing them by the withdrawal of the defenses of law, batters down, with ruthless hand, the barriers which protect the health and life of his fellow-citizens, and sends in through the breach the whole motley herd of illiterate and reckless quacks. And the clergyman, who deprecates gross theological errors that come from irregularity and forsaking of the old paths, and is of the strictest orthodoxy in excluding quackery from his own profession, is often seen foremost in the ranks of the patrons of medical empiricism. Though he may strain at a gnat in guarding against theological quackery, when he comes to medicine verily he is ready to swallow a camel.

[And here we cannot forbear saying, that clergymen, above all men, should not be found among those who favor empiricism. For the most part they receive the gratuitous attendance of the physician, which is most cheerfully given to a class who labor so ardently, and for so small a compensation, as they ordinarily do, for the good of their fellow-men. And yet many of them often bestow the weight of their powerful and extensive influence on the encouragement of systems of quackery and patent nostrums. Some of the chief supporters of Homoeopathy, and other kindred delusions, are distinguished clergymen.]

[Though quackery is more rife in medicine than in theology, it has of late years made some very serious inroads upon the clerical profession. Irregular and irresponsible evangelists, and their measures, bear the same relation to the established ministry, laboring in their appointed way steadily from year to year, that wandering empirics and their nostrums do to educated physicians and their modes of practice. The same pleas are made for the one as for the other. It is said that the evangelist and his measures do good, and the same is as truly said of the quack and his medicines. And the same can be said, too, of the evil results in the two cases; viz, that they vastly overbalance the good that is done.]

[It would be interesting to follow out the parallel, and show the similarity, in many points, in the results of quackery in religion and in medicine. But my limits will allow me to allude to only one of these points. As the votary of medical empiricism loses all rational confidence in educated skill, and is continually running from medicine to medicine, and from system to system, so he that imbibes the principles of quackery in religion acquires a distaste for the regular ministrations of the gospel, and is ready to adopt every new notion or measure that can feed his desire for excitement and novelty. An unsettled and ever-varying state of things is the legitimate result in the one case as well as in the]

other. And now that the clerical is suffering similar tribulation with that which has always burdened the medical profession, we shall hope to have some sympathy from that quarter—sympathy which will prompt the clergy to apply the same principle to medical that they do to theological quackery, and to censure the former as decidedly as they do the latter.]

The second proof which I shall adduce of the truth of the assertion, that public sentiment does not award the same respect to the medical profession as it does to that of law or divinity, is the fact, that success is not in such just proportion to merit among medical men, as it is among the members of the other professions. Men of little talent and small acquirements, often obtain a large medical practice; while, on the other hand, many physicians can be found, of real merit, whose practice is very limited. This is not so either in the profession of law or of theology.

Perhaps it will be said that some who are far from being good lawyers, acquire a large legal practice. But to do this, though they may not be accurate and learned in the law, they must have real talent of some kind, either as advocates or as business men. They cannot do it, as physicians often do, by mere tact and cunning, exercised not in the appropriate duties of the profession, but in producing false impressions of their skill on the public mind—not in managing disease, but in managing the whims and caprices of their employers. It is an utter impossibility that any lawyer should acquire a large business, with so small an amount of talent, as is possessed by some physicians who have an extensive practice—and that, too, among the wealthy and learned and titled in our land. And on the other hand, there are many members of our profession, deriving their way through life with a practice that barely gives them a subsistence, who would, with the same talent employed in the legal profession, obtain an abundance both of honor and

enclément. The same comparison can be made for the most part with the clerical profession.

In natural connection with the proof just adduced, there is another. CIt is the fact, that a physician's reputation among the members of the profession, for talents and skill, is very often no measure of his reputation in the community—a fact which does not exist, to any extent at least, in the other professions. It is often the case that a physician of small practice is highly respected by his medical brethren, and his advice is valued by them in difficult cases; while, on the contrary, there are men enjoying a literary business, whose opinions have very little weight with their fellow-physicians. CConsiderable deference is paid to them, it is true; but it is only from necessity, from the elevated station into which the community have put them from a false estimate of their merit. This distinction between reputation in the profession and a more popular reputation is often so palpable, that it is a subject of common remark; and it is a most decisive evidence that medical skill is not estimated by the public upon right grounds, and often fails to gain that respect which is its due, and which is more surely awarded to talent in the other professions.

I have no reference in the above observations to physicians who have talents of a high order, and yet who have not good judgment and common sense to guide them. There are many such, who, though very acute and ingenious in their speculations and theories, are far from being good practical physicians. These may and sometimes do succeed in gaining a reputation among the people, in spite of their real incapacity for a judicious performance of the duties of the physician; though they ordinarily do not. These are not the cases which I had in my mind. I referred to cases in which the failure to succeed does not arise from any deficiency of judgment in managing disease; but from want of skill or rather tact in producing confidence on the part of the com-

minity. 'This is a talent, it is true; but it is one which is possessed by many who have very little skill in the treatment of disease.

3 One more proof of the truth of my assertion remains to be noticed. The standing of a physician, with the public is not necessarily influenced by the opinions which he avows on medical subjects. A reputation for wisdom and talent in the other professions is very much affected by the doctrines which are advanced and defended. If they militate against sound reason and common sense, the wisdom of their author is called in question. If he be fanciful in his notions and theories, his opinions have little practical weight with the community, though it may accord to him the merit of talent and ingenuity. The people, for the most part, render a just verdict in such cases.)

But it is far otherwise with medical men. Sound judgment and real wisdom need not to be stamped upon their opinions and teachings, to give them favor and currency with the people. False, fanciful, and even ridiculous doctrines may be advanced by a physician without injuring his standing with his employers—as well those who are learned and well informed, as the illiterate and unthinking. Nay, they may even add to his popularity. (Men seem, when they come to the subject of medicine, to leave behind them all those tests, which they commonly apply to sentiments and opinions, to discover their wisdom or to detect their folly. Even those who exhibit great stability and acuteness of mind in sifting truth and rejecting plausible error on other subjects, are often seen to be blown about by every wind of doctrine in medicine.)

Homeopathy furnishes a good illustration of these remarks. This new science, (as it is impulsively styled by its advocates), has among its votaries many of the wise and learned. It is the refined and polite system of quackery of the present day, though it is now threatened with an eclipse

by the rising Hydropathy of Prussia. It is really astonishing to see persons of acute discernment, who are accustomed to examine every thing minutely, and receive almost nothing upon trust, dissent with the open mouth and closed eyes of credulity, the wildest notions of Hahnemann. There is one of his doctrines which I believe they do reject, and it is one which he says it cost him twelve years of study to establish. It is this. The great majority of chronic complaints arise from the disease vulgarly called the *itch*. The difficulty in rejecting this is not so fully, for his other opinions are so palpably foolish as this is. The true reason is, that it is too gross and vulgar for the refined followers of Hahnemann, and therefore they say nothing about it, even though this great reformer in medicine proclaimed it as one of the three grand discoveries which were to make him immortal in fame.)

(But it is often said that many physicians have adopted the Homoeopathic views, and that some of them are of high standing. This is far from being true. Very few physicians of any respectability have adopted these, and some of these few have ever had a commanding influence in the profession. So far as my observation has extended, these physicians who have become Homoeopaths belong to two classes—those who are visionary, and who are apt to engage in new projects with enthusiasm; and those who have taken up this mode of practice to secure patronage, which they would fail to obtain by pursuing a rational course, without regard to the prevailing whims and fads of the community.)

¶ The doctrines of Homoeopathy have sometimes been most unjustly classed with other theories that have been advanced by medical men, such as that of Boerhaave, for example. And it has been said that physicians disdain, and treat with contempt, any one who advocates any new doctrine or system. This is not so. Though the doctrine of Boerhaave was di-

rectly opposed to the commonly-received notions of the profession, he was always treated with respect, and even honor, by his opponents, because in the midst of his errors truth was developed, and real talent was displayed. But it is not so with Hahnemann's *Hieracism* as an outrage on all truth, and even common sense. It is as much out of the way of all reason in medicine, as Millarian or Mornism is in religion. It is worthy only of mangled pity and contempt. The doctrines of Brown and Hahnemann are both false doctrines; but while that of Brown has some mixture of truth in it, and has led to investigations which are really beneficial that of Hahnemann is *wholly* false and ridiculous, and leads to no good results.

(Perhaps it will be said that false theories are often maintained in law and theology, and their authors get much credit for their talent and ingenuity.) But they are theories of the same stamp as that of Brown is in medicine. No legal or theological doctrine, so fanciful and so encumbered with folly as Hahnemann's is, could ever gain its merited applause among the learned and refined, as Hahnemann's doctrine has done for him. He would be ridiculed, not only by the members of his own profession, but by all the wise and judicious in the community, many of whom give to the Homoeopathy of Hahnemann and other kindred follies their approbation and their patronage.)

Having thus considered the principal proofs of my assertion, that the medical profession is not respected as the other professions are, I now invite your attention to the causes of this want of respect. As my object is a practical one, bearing directly upon our responsibilities and duties as physicians, it is not my intention to go into an examination of all these causes, but only those which exist in the profession itself. Let us look at these faithfully, and do what we can to remove them.

I have already spoken of a false and fanciful confidence,

which is often reposed in the physician, as well as in the empire, in contrast with a rational and steady confidence, based on true grounds, and having nothing in common with empiricism. It is this latter kind of confidence which the medical profession should claim of the public as its right. But this claim is too often waived by the physician; and he enters the lists, to obtain the prize of popular confidence and applause, on the same terms with the most arrant quack. Like him he yields to the caprice and whims of the multitude to gain their favor. When he does this he inflicts a wound upon the honor of the profession; and, by bringing it down from its lofty and elevated calling to a competition with empiricism, essentially degrades it in the eyes of the community.

I would be far from recommending that the physician should count a war with every popular notion of a false diagnosis. But he should never shrink from the encounter, when by doing so he would compromise the dignity of the profession. Yet there are many physicians, who not only prove treacherous doctors at such times, but actually go over to the enemy, that they may get a share of the spoils.

You can find an illustration of these remarks in any of the popular errors of the day. Take, for example, the prejudice which has existed against the use of calomel. Many physicians have made use of this prejudice to a greater or less extent, as a hold by which to ride into popular favor; while, perhaps at the same time they have administered the remedy secretly, if not quite as much as they ever did, but concealed in combination with other medicines. Instead of striving, as they should do, to convince their employers of the truth on this subject, they yield an assent to their notions, and aim to produce the false impression that they use this drug much less than other physicians do, perhaps even that they do not use it at all; thus, by base insinuations, reflecting an injury upon their brethren, and on the profession

at large.* Let me not be understood to claim that the fact of its use should always be made known, as a matter of course. The good of the patient may require that this knowledge be withheld, and then it should be done, if it can be consistently with real honesty. But I do protest against such sheer deception as giving this remedy in combination with something else, and calling it, for example, a quieting powder, a deception which I have known to be practised more than once. And I protest, also, against making use of this or any other popular whim, to build up one's own interest to the detriment of the interests of others. Similar remarks might be made in regard to other prevalent notions, but this will suffice.

I have said that the physician has two kinds of reputation; a reputation with the people, and another with the profession; that they are for the most part based on different grounds; and are often no measure of each other. There is too much disposition, on the part of many physicians, to prefer decidedly a *popular* reputation to a strictly *professional* one, for two reasons. It requires less skill and talent and study to obtain it, and when it is obtained it is more profitable. Many therefore determine to acquire this at all hazards, even if it be at the expense of honor and good standing among their brethren. They thus waste their energies in efforts, which not only tend to impair, rather than increase, their skill in the treatment of disease, but contribute also to lower the general standard of attainment in the profession, and consequently the respect which it receives from the community. The science of patient-getting is often more assiduously studied than that of patient-curing. Real success is not so much desired as the mere appearance of it.

* *Antonie's Medicine* is to us most valuable; and yet has a decided value, as given a better insight into those who practice this combination, and carry a physician's bag, and who would easily believe the wonderful effects of this pain powder, to pursue the same doctrine that they are ordered to dispense.

Common ground is taken with the boasting charlatan. The practitioner is he imbued with a great sense of the physician's skill without any reference to real merit. The object is to be assumed, at any rate, and whether it can be done on true or false grounds, seems not to be very material.

If this sort of men confined to but a few members of the profession, and these few were of low character and limited influence, I would not dwell on this point. But it is a fact that cannot be disputed, that some physicians of real skill and talent are cramped out of the right path, in order for the empirical tactics of the multitude, in order to build up their reputation. And they are sometimes bound to justify such a course by the false and essentially plea, that often the only way to compete successfully with the ignorant and dishonest is to meet them on their own ground, and fight them with their own weapons.

Self-interest is often seen thus controlling the good of the profession, when the two come into apparent opposition. The very doctrine, which some physicians hold fast to in regard to the practice of medicine, prompted by this spirit, is calculated to degrade it as the estimation of the multitude. Instead of defending the profession, and its members, against the attacks of superstition, and the bare assertion, and of the most true stem injuries, attacks of envy and covetousness, they lend to them their approbation and encouragement, looking only to their own private advantage, and caring not for the welfare or character of their brethren or of the profession.

But if we wish the profession to prosper, and to prosper with it ourselves, this narrow and selfish spirit must be banished from among us. We must cultivate an honorable respectability, and temporary enmities must be given up whenever required to advance the interests of the whole. It is a short-sighted policy to pursue a different course. Though success may be the result, it is at the expense of

great pains-taking, and coupled with the loss of self-respect and of an approving conscience. Pseudo-sciences thus obtained is insecure. Build an house and mansions which are evanescent and clinging, it may be easily lost. And if it be retained through a long life, it is done by such constant and anxious labor to ensure conformity with popular changes, that there is none of that quiet and digested enjoyment, which attends the success of the honorable and independent man of science.

The physician who chooses to employ mean and empirical arts in acquiring his reputation, does so for the most part with impunity, so far as public opinion is concerned. The community generally have very loose ideas of the rules of honorable interference among physicians, and are disposed to cast contempt upon anything like medical etiquette — a disposition, which dishonorable members of our profession, for obvious reasons, are very willing to encourage. And then, too, the quackery, of which regular physicians are guilty, is apt to be of an intangible character, escaping the eye of the common observer. It is very much like the profanity of some people, which instead of being bold and open, is expressed in language so modified as to keep within the limits of a conventional decency, and in print appears only in initial and terminal letters with a dash between them. This stealthily skulking quackery among medical men, that fears the face of day, does vastly more injury to the profession than glaring and shameless empiricism, with all its array of certificates and advertisements. These thrusts in the dark from professed friends inflict more serious wounds than are ever received from the open foe.

The evil of which we speak commonly exists to a greater extent in the country than in large towns and cities. Wherever there are physicians enough to form a real medical community, having a public sentiment as a living efficient principle of its organization, we have a good corrective for this evil,

though not an adequate one in all cases. Under such circumstances a character *with the profession*, both for *learning* and for *skill*, is obviously of more value to its possessor than it is in a scattered population, where one's strictly professional character is not so well known by the people, and where any violation of our established rules of intercourse can meet for the most part, with only individual censure, which, however just and proper it may be, is exceedingly liable to be attributed to personal feeling and prejudice.

If all physicians would adhere strictly to the rules that are laid down in our articles of medical ethics, and endeavor to make the intelligent and influential in society acquainted with them, and point out their responsibilities on all proper occasions, the petty contentions which so often degrade the profession, would cease, and it would no longer be a by-word for its uncertainty and its dissensions, not to say its quarrels, but it would command, as it should do, the confidence and respect of the whole community.

We may sometimes find a striking verification of these remarks, by looking at the comparative state of the profession in different places. Wherever you see physicians harmonious, careful of each other's character, seeking for reputation on right grounds, and governed by the rules of honor in their intercourse and their competition, there you see the profession receiving the esteem which is its due, and quackery hithers its head in shame. But where you find the members of the profession in any place engaged in contentions with each other, and relying upon mere fact and the artifice of empiricism as gaining a reputation, you will see that community placing a low estimate on educated skill, and quackery will be bold and impudent, basking in the sunshine of popular favor. A single physician often does great harm by lending his influence to produce such a state of things in a community; and this makes one of the best il-

destructions in the world of the important truths that I once
 waver destroyed such good? He introduces impostors
 and knaves among brethren, who would otherwise be at peace
 — provides them to retaliate his dishonorable treatment —
 and puts them in a false position by making false issues
 with them before the public. And if he be satisfied with
 this art, he may do all this and yet manage to keep the
 good opinion of a large portion of the community; especially
 if he can link in with himself some of his medical brethren
 by the same kind of self-interest, so that they will be dis-
 posed to defend or at least palliate his conduct.

Many of the members of our profession have been guilty
 not only of using the arts of deception, but of giving coun-
 sel to its use. To say nothing of the occasional ad-
 ministrations of patent medicines to gratify the desires and
 wishes of the sick, a long array of distinguished men from
 our own ranks could be adduced, as having given the world
 of their influence to quackery by certificates attesting the
 virtues of secret medicines. And as the voice of the whole
 profession has not been kindly and perseveringly lifted
 against this evil, it is chargeable with the sin of consenting
 to its existence. Never can we offer a test and unbroken
 front in opposition to quackery, till we individually and col-
 lectively maintain to the last the true principle on this sub-
 ject, which is this: *that secrecy in regard to the composition
 of medicines is opposed both to the usefulness and the dignity
 of the profession, and is calculated to deceive and injure the
 community.* The multitude of treated new medicines which
 are constantly put forth, are, with very few exceptions, old
 combinations of well-known remedies, perhaps a little mod-
 ified; and they would have no favor with the public if they
 were stripped of the charms of secrecy. The only way to
 guard effectually against this kind of imposture is steadily
 to discard utterly all secret nostrums. If any physician has
 made any real discovery, let him bring it out to the light,

and prove his title to the high honor of a discoverer in the fields of science; but let him not enter into competition with the herd of pretenders, who are palming off upon the public old remedies as new discoveries, merely because he may in this way realize more pecuniary profit. The fact that he does so is presumptive evidence that he really belongs to that vulgar herd.

There is one evasion of the principle that I have stated, against which I must here most strongly protest. Some physicians have offered medicines for sale, informing their agents that the composition can be made known to any medical man who desires it. This is a very different *course* from that which the honor of the profession demands of one of its members. For after all, while the composition of the medicine becomes in this way very slowly known to physicians in different parts of the country, its sale is rapidly forced upon the public by blazoning advertisements and numerous agents in every quarter; so that, if it be found to be really nothing new, the community are effectively cheated, for a time at least, and the more so perhaps from the apparent candor and honesty with which its author is disposed to treat his medical brethren. So popular and successful has this course been, that some of the vendors of secret remedies out of the profession have also adopted it.

Our duty is so clear, and so well established in regard to secret nostrums and patent medicines, that I have had some hesitation in dwelling at all on this subject. But there has been, and still continues to be, so much laxity among the members of the profession on this important point, that it seems to be necessary on all proper occasions to proclaim our principles, and insist upon a strict observance of them.

I have then, with all plainness, pointed out most of those causes of the want of respect on the part of the community towards the medical profession, which have their existence in the profession itself. I have done it for a practical purpose, with the hope that we may be aroused to the removal

of these causes, so far as they may be found within the borders of our society. To reflect that we must do our duty, both individually and collectively, in accordance to those principles by which, as men of science and fellow-members of a noble profession, we ought to be governed.

Let us address ourselves in good earnest to the work of building up the worn and decayed house of our profession, and endeavor to place it in that elevated position which a profession should have, bearing such high responsibilities, engaged in so noble a work of humanity, and justly claiming to be the repository of the medical knowledge which has been accumulating from the labor of ages in study and research and experiment. Let us have no communion with empiricism in any form. Let us carefully discard every rule that is inconsistent with honor and a good conscience, for no body of men nor profession can command the respect of the community for any length of time without self-respect, any more than an individual can. Let competition always be honorable, and not descend to the low arts of the mere pretender to skill. Instead of being actuated by a narrow and unjust selfishness, let us cultivate that *esprit du corps* which will lead us to act in unison for the good of the profession as a whole.

There never has been a time when there was a more imperative necessity for the application of these principles in our profession; and I may say, too, there never has been a time when they could be applied to more effect. Never has there been so much of empiricism as there is now. Never has it occurred such a variety of forms to suit all tastes, and never has it made such daring assaults upon the medical profession. Never have the opinions of the people been so thoroughly unsettled in regard to different remedies and modes of practice; and the remark is heard every day, even from men of intelligence, 'in medicine I know not what to believe.' But I see the dawn of a better day for our profession in this wavering public sentiment, and in this abund-

ance of quackery. There seems to be a crisis coming upon Quack remedies and systems used once as untested each other so slowly in the public favor, that the superficial taste of the community was simply well nourished; but now it is becoming so saturated that disgust must to some extent be the consequence. The intelligent and well informed among the victims of quackery cannot but see the utter folly of the pretensions, which herald every one of the thousand remedies and the many systems, that are now struggling for the favor and patronage of the public. They will soon get weary of following after so many bubbles, ready to see them burst and disappear, and will come back from their wanderings to the ever-varying mines of conjecture, to repeat a steady attendance in educated wisdom and skill.

In this state of things—only a transition state—which can be done by physicians in sustaining public sentiment aright. In order to do this, it is plain that the process of purification must be gone through by the profession itself. It is no vain to expect even the intelligent and judicious, to say nothing of the ignorant and unhesitating, to give up empiricism, unless we banish it from among ourselves. And there are some evident signs to encourage the hope that this will be done. The rapid increase of quackery has aroused the profession; and, though some have proved despondent and some are prowling about to gather up the spoils, wherever they may be found, the great mass of our members are beginning to give up mutual dissensions, and sacrifice their selfish interests, to unite their voices against a common enemy.

I cannot conclude this dissertation without remarking upon one event which touches materially the interests of the profession in this State. I refer to the repeal of the eighth section of our charter. If this repeal simply gave us the exclusive right to collect, in common with us, his dose, I would not waste a word on the subject. It is a great mistake to suppose that this is the point of our objection to that

act of the legislature. The results of that act, of which we complain, are of vastly greater importance than this. We object to it, first, because the legislature in their capacity, as the representative wisdom of the people, have thus openly said that education in medicine is valueless, and that the community need none of that protection against the hazards of unskilful ignorance, which is thought so necessary to guard all other stations of responsibility and trust. And we object to it, secondly, that this act has, without any consent on our part, essentially affected our organization—that is, as a society existing under the protection and supervision of law. For in that repealed section is contained the only provision pointing out the kind of persons who shall compose the society. So that no physician who was not then belonging to the society can become a member under our present regulations: and when those who were members by law when the act of repeal was passed, shall all be deceased, the society, as the eye of the law, will be deceased also, if things are allowed to remain as they now are. Though, as I shall soon show, another part of the charter fortunately furnishes us with the means of repairing the breach thus made, nevertheless the legislature has destroyed the present principle of our organization, upon which the society has acted for years, and has driven us to the alternative of asking for a restoration of this, or of adopting a new principle for the admission of members. This result was probably not intended by those who passed the act. But it is not wondered that, when the legislature undertook to give its sanction to quackery, it should betray its own quackery by the commission of so gross a blunder as this certainly was.

And here I would remark that the Thomsonians have made a great mistake, as well as the legislature. The repeal of the right section places them in no enviable attitude. Besides taking out of their mouths the false but popular cry of persecution, it opens the door for quackery too wide even for them. The effect will inevitably be, that this mode of

practice will be taken up by so many fresh from the workshop and the field, that it will be profitable to no one. And the people, too, are beginning to see that as it is claimed that very little discrimination is needed, and that but a few hours' study is required, to enable one to practice Thomsonianism, they can do without a doctor as well as they can with one in administering Thomsonian remedies. Some of the Thomsonians themselves, when they found that the eighth section was at last really to be repealed, were shrewd enough to foresee these results, and actually endeavored to prevent its repeal, and to get an act passed, granting to those who had gone through a certain length of Thomsonian pupillage the same privileges with the members of our society. They had thus the effrontery to ask that they might possess, in common with us, that which they have always branded as an unjust and odious monopoly. This is a success in the history of Thomsonianism, too precious to be lost.

In the present legal condition of our society, it becomes an inquiry of some interest, what course it is most advisable for us to pursue. I have said that since the repeal of the eighth section no new members could join the society, under our existing regulations. And yet it appears clear that there is granted to us in another part of our charter the power of making such regulations as will effectually remedy the evil. You will find in the fourth section of the acts of incorporation, as passed in 1834, that we have the power "to make rules for the admission of members"—a very brief expression, but giving us as comprehensive a power as we need for our purpose. This power has hitherto been exercised only in relation to unlicensed physicians who began practice previous to the year 1830; all other cases being considered as covered by the eighth section, which says that "all persons licensed to practice physic or surgery, and practicing within the State, shall, of course, be members of the medical society." That it can be exercised in regard to all other cases,

by the adoption of some regulations on our part. There is not a doubt.

In this state of things there is some difference in the views of physicians as to the proper measures to be adopted. Some are in favor of incorporating our chapter wholly, and becoming a purely voluntary association, having our own private rules and regulations, without any regard to law. In this case we should be obliged to begin de novo and the difficulties that stand in the way of this, in relation to our fiscal affairs, the idea of perfecting our organization, so as to be satisfactory to all, and the dissensions which might arise on various points, I need not stop to notice.

Others prefer to adhere to our present organization, provided that the legislature can be persuaded to repair the breach which they unwisely made in it. Others will choose to go on with what is left to us by the legislature, (and which I think is all that is necessary for our purpose), making such regulations as we shall think proper, for the admission of members.

I should much prefer the last of these three propositions. This will not, it is true, enable us to compel every licensed physician to join us, whether he desires it or not, as the eighth section did. So far as the admission of members is concerned, we shall thus become a voluntary association. And the more I think of membership by compulsion, the more repugnant it is to my feelings. If it be not a privilege to belong to our society, which the physician will seek for, it is not worth the trouble of keeping it in existence. And the fact that it has thus far been considered a privilege, has, in spite of the occasional complaints from dissatisfied members, effectively saved us from the odium which would otherwise have been attached to this feature in our organization.

Our present plan of organization under the protection and supervision of law, I think should be essentially adhered to,

for this simple reason, if for no other; that it has been put to the test, and has been found to be very efficient in promoting the great object for which it was devised.

At the time that our State society was formed, in 1792, the medical profession was in a bad condition. There was then no well-defined boundary between it and empiricism. The formation of our society at once crossed such a boundary, and by enclosing the profession within the barriers of a prescribed education, protected it from ignorant intruders who might otherwise come in to degrade and injure it. And if the principles which lie at the foundation of our society could be carried on into full operation, with the studied and uniform support of the community, there would be almost no suspicion, and the benefits of educated skill would be secured to the public as thoroughly as it can be done by any organization. Whatever of delinquency there is in the attainment of this object is not to be attributed to any defect in the organization itself, but to the obstacles which lie in the way of its perfect operation.

There is one very common error in the public mind on this subject, which ought to be corrected. It is supposed that our State society was formed for the benefit of physicians, to protect them from the evils resulting from competition with ignorance and imposture. This is by no means the case. The great object of our organization is to defend, not physicians, but the people, against the injury which they are liable to suffer from quackery. And a purpose to effect this important purpose by the only way in which it can be done; that is, by securing to the community the services of a body of well-educated physicians. The mistake has been in supposing the means to be the end; and not when the profession of law been considered as a gratuity, conferred on physicians as a very deserving order of men, for their *own* benefit; whereas the great design is to bestow a benefit upon society at large, and the advantage which accrues to the profession is incidental, and in fact subsidiary, to that design.

Public sentiment should be enlightened on this point. The people should be made to see that it is their own interest, which should prompt them, on the principle of self-preservation, to maintain, by the enactment of law, those barriers which experience has shown to be the most effectual in guarding them against the monstrous, and often deadly, evils of ignorance and imposture in the practice of medicine.

The medical profession, let the people understand, is not dependent on the protection of law, and it comes not to their hall of legislation to beg any favor. It can have its own organization, and stand upon its own character alone. If the charter should be surrendered, and the plan of voluntary association should be adopted in full, renouncing all dependence upon law, those who entered into it would probably enjoy as much emolument from the practice of medicine as they now do. But, as law gives authority and steadiness to any organization, and makes it to have a wider hold upon the community, our society without a legal organization would not contain as many members as it now has, and irregular and irresponsible practitioners would multiply. Under such a state of things the society itself would be more pure and more free from empiricism than it is now; and its members, a noble brotherhood, with an unshakled honor, and actuated by stern principle and devotion to the interests of medical science, would secure the confidence of the better part of the community. But while our society and the profession would perhaps experience no real detriment from the change, the public would suffer from abounding quackery, beguiling on every hand the ignorant and the unwary.

In conclusion, let me say, that I hope that it will not be in vain that I have brought these subjects before the convention. It becomes us to look at them seriously, and to endeavor to correct all those evils that may exist among us, so that we may as a profession both merit and obtain a well-founded and uniform confidence and esteem on the part of the community.

PROCEEDINGS

AT THE

ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

CONN. MEDICAL SOCIETY,

MAY, 1835,

Together with a List of the Members.

NORWICH:

Z. S. COOLEY, PRINTER.

1835.



PROCEEDINGS,

AT THE ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE PRESIDENT AND FELLOWS OF THE CONNECTICUT MEDICAL SOCIETY, HELD AT GILMAN'S HALL, IN HARTFORD, MAY 14th AND 15th, 1845.

Certificates of the election of Fellows were presented as follows:

Hartford County.

E. K. Hart,
John S. Butler,
Abbel W. Barrows,
*Roosevelt Hawley,
Eli Hall.

New Haven County.

Jonathan Knight,
Elisha Hutchinson,
Charles Hooker,
L. N. Beardley,
D. L. Daggett.

New London County.

Avery Dowton,
Washington Hooker,
W. W. J. Warren,
*Mason Monting,
Isaac G. Porter.

Middlesex County.

I. Hutchinson,
A. M. Holt,
R. Warner.

Fairfield County.

R. Blakeman,
Samuel Beach,
*C. Ayers,
Samuel S. Noyes,
*George Blackman.

Litchfield County.

Remon M. Fowler,
J. G. Beckwith,
William B. DeForest,
Edward P. Lyman,
Albert A. Wright.

Windham County.

William Warner,
Justin Hammond,
Milton Bradford,
Nathan S. Pike,
Chester Hunt.

Tolland County.

Francis L. Dickinson,
Alden Skinner,
Orin C. White.

*Absent from the Convention.

A dissertation was read by Dr. N. B. Ives on *Laryngismus Stridulus*.

Resolved, That the Dissertation read by Dr. N. B. Ives before this Convention be published with its Proceedings.

The Report of the Committee of Examination was read and accepted.

Resolved, That the Business Committees of the Convention be now appointed.

Drs. E. K. Hunt and Wright were appointed a Committee to audit the Treasurer's account.

Drs. E. P. Lyman and DeForest were appointed a Committee on Debentures.

Drs. Knight, Hall, Porter, Blakeman, Fowler, Wister, Hutchinson and White, were appointed a Committee to nominate candidates for honorary degrees and honorary membership.

The report of the Treasurer was presented and accepted.

Abstract of the Treasurer's Report.

Amount due from the different Clerks expended to be paid,	8776 43½
Due to the Treasurer,	8 23 28
Outstanding debentures not exceeding	317 60
Average discounts, 13 per cent.,	102 52
Commissions on collections,	34 30½
	<hr/> 483 10½

Deducting this from the gross amount leaves \$353 33 which is the amount which the society would have in the Treasury if its dues were collected and its debts paid.

Debts amounting to \$218 92 were reported as worthless. Of these \$197 75 were voted to be stricken out from the accounts of the Society.

Resolved, That Drs. E. K. Hunt, Wister, W. Booker, Fowler and Beckwith be a Committee to examine Dr. Jarvis' *Surgical Adjuvant*, and report to this Convention.

The report of the Committee appointed by the last Convention, "to take into consideration the subject of a Hospital for Inebriates," was presented and accepted, and the following resolution recommended by them was adopted :

Resolved, That, while we feel the deepest interest in the moral and physical well-being of the inebriate, and are of the opinion that individual cases not infrequently occur, which would be greatly benefited, if not wholly restored, by the reforming influences which a Hospital for Inebriates has it in contemplation to secure, we cannot now recommend that measures be taken for its establishment, but that the subject be for the present postponed.

Committee appointed to audit the Treasurer's account, reported that they had examined it and found it to be correct.

Drs. Welch, C. Hooker and W. Bowler were appointed to nominate a dissertation for the next Convention.

Voted, That the Secretary be requested to furnish Mr. Green, publisher of the Annual Register, with a copy of the Proceedings of this Convention.

The report of the Committee appointed at the last convention to revise the By-Laws was presented and accepted.

Voted, That each By-Law be voted upon separately.

The Convention then proceeded to their consideration.

The Committee to nominate candidates for honorary degrees and honorary membership, recommended as candidates for honorary degrees, Samuel Sherwood Noyes, Thomas P. Wadley and Gamaliel H. St. John. The nomination was approved by the convention.

Voted, To adjourn to to-morrow morning at 8 o'clock.

MAY FIFTEENTH.

Met according to adjournment.

The Convention finished the consideration of the By-Laws.

Voted, That the By-Laws, as revised and adopted by this Convention, be printed with its Proceedings.

The By-Law proposed at the last Convention in relation to the election of the Standing Committees was indefinitely postponed.

Voted, That the Treasurer be directed to address a Circular to the Clerks of the County Meetings, pointing out the necessity of an immediate collection of the taxes, and that he be directed, if necessary, to enforce the collection.

The Committee on Prize Dissertations reported verbally, that several dissertations had been received, and that they had not yet been examined fully by the Committee, but that they would be ready to report in season to have the result published with the Proceedings of the Convention.

Dr. Puller was excused from serving on this Committee on account of ill health. Dr. C. Hooker was appointed in his place.

Report of the Committee on Dr. Jarvis' "Surgical Adjuster" was accepted, and the following resolution recommended by them was adopted:

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Convention, the "Surgical Adjuster" of Dr. Geo. O. Jarvis, for simplicity of design, ease and efficiency in its operation and management, in the reduction of dislocations, and maintaining in coaptation oblique fractures of the longer bones of the body, has never been equalled — successfully supplying a desideratum which has long been admitted to exist, in the practice of surgery. We cordially recommend it to the notice of all those engaged in this difficult and responsible department of our art.

Dr. Theodore Sill was appointed dissertator for the next Convention.

Report of Committee on debentures was accepted, and the bill ordered to be paid.

Voted, That a tax of one dollar and fifty cents be laid on each member of this Society for the year ensuing, payable on and after the first day of June next.

The following officers were elected for the year ensuing,
viz:

LUTHER TICKNOR, M. D., *President*,
ARCHIBALD WELCH, M. D., *Vice President*,
VIRGIL M. DOW, M. D., *Treasurer*,
WORTHINGTON HOOKER, M. D., *Secretary*.

The Standing Committees were elected as follows, viz:

LUTHER TICKNOR, M. D., <i>ex officio</i> ,	} <i>Committee of Examination.</i>
SAMUEL FULLER, M. D.,	
J. G. BECKWITH, M. D.,	
ARCHIBALD WELCH, M. D.,	
WILLIAM H. CONSWELL, M. D.,	
RUFUS BLACKMAN, M. D.,	

ELI ITERS, M. D.,	} <i>Committee to nominate Phy- sicians of the Re- sident for the Inn.</i>
ISAAC G. PORTER, M. D.,	
RICHARD WARNER, M. D.,	
SAMUEL BLANCH, M. D.,	
WILLIAM WITTER, M. D.,	

REUBEN M. FOWLER, M. D.,	} <i>Committee to nominate Profes- sors in the Med- ical Institution of Yale College.</i>
WILLIAM S. PIERSON, M. D.,	
REYNOLD WELLS, M. D.,	
ANDREW WOODWARD, M. D.,	
E. K. HUNT, M. D.,	

The students recommended by the County Societies for gratuitous attendance on the ensuing course of Lectures in the Medical Institution of Yale College, are Joseph J. Meigs, New Haven County; Samuel A. Bills, Hartford County; Cyrus Miner, New London County; Prosper H. Hutchinson, Windham County; Joseph B. Elliot, Litchfield County; Nathan Bulkeley, Fairfield County; Theodore S. Ladd, Tolland County; Orlando E. Turner, Middlesex County.

Voted, To adjourn *sine die*.

Attest,

W. HOOKER, Secretary.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PRIZE DISSERTATIONS.

The Committee appointed by the Connecticut Medical Society, "to propose a prize question to members of this Society, and to award the prize," report:

That five Essays on the subject, *Scarlatina*, have been submitted for their examination; and that on opening the sealed envelope, accompanying the Essay for which the Committee decided to award the prize, the author was found to be PINKNEY W. ELLSWORTH, M. D., of Hartford.

ELI IVES,	} Committee.
J. KNIGHT,	
CHAS. HOOKER,	

NEW-HAVEN, May 26, 1845.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

*FELIX PASCALIS,	New York,
JAMES JACKSON,	Boston, Mass.,
JOHN C. WARREN,	" "
*SAMUEL L. MITCHELL,	New York,
*DAVID HOSACK,	" "
*WRIGHT POST,	" "
BENJAMIN SILLIMAN,	New Haven,
GEORGE MCLELLAN,	Philadelphia, Pa., *
*JOHN MACKIE,	Providence, R. I.,
*CHARLES ELDREDGE,	East Greenwich, R. I.,
THEODRIC ROMEYN BECK,	Albany, N. Y.,
JAMES THATCHER,	Plymouth, Mass.,
*JOSEPH WHITE,	Cherry Valley, N. Y.,
*WM. P. DEWEES,	Philadelphia, Pa.,
EDWARD DELAFIELD,	New York,
JOHN DELAMATER,	Little Falls, N. Y.,
WALTER CHANNING,	Boston, Mass.,
JACOB BIGELOW,	" "
*PHILIP SYNG PHYSICK,	Philadelphia, Pa.,
*LEWIS HEERMANN,	U. S. Navy,
DANIEL DRAKE,	Cincinnati, Ohio,
HENRY MITCHELL,	Norwich, N. Y.,
NATHAN BYNO SMITH,	Baltimore, Md.,
VALENTINE MOTT,	New York,
SAMUEL WHITE,	Hudson, N. Y.,
REUBEN D. MUSSEY,	Cincinnati, Ohio,
WM. TULLEY,	New Haven,
RICHMOND BROWNELL,	Providence, R. I.,
WM. BEAUMONT,	U. S. Army,
SAMUEL HENRY DICKSON,	Charleston, S. C.,
SAMUEL B. WOODWARD,	Worcester, Mass.,
JOHN STEARNS,	New York,
STEPHEN W. WILLIAMS,	Deerfield, Mass.,
HENRY GREEN,	Albany, N. Y.,
GEORGE FROST,	Springfield, Mass.,
WILLARD PARKER,	New York,
BENAJAH TICKNOR,	U. S. Navy,
ALDEN MARCH,	Albany, N. Y.

* Deceased.

ORDINARY MEMBERS.

The names of those Members who are exempt from taxation by age, are in Italics; the names of those who have been Presidents of the Society, are in Capitals.

HARTFORD COUNTY.

DAVID S. DODGE, M. D., Chairman.

ERNEST K. HUNT, Clerk.

HARTFORD, <i>SILAS FULLER</i> , George Sumner, David S. Dodge, Henry Holmes, S. B. Berensford, G. B. Hawley, E. E. Macey, G. W. Knapp, David Crary, P. W. Ellsworth, Benjamin Rogers, E. K. Hunt, Samuel B. Fuller, Samuel Beards, Seth Salmons, John S. Butler, Thos. B. Kittredge, H. A. Grant, Jr.	FARMINGTON, Asahel Thompson, E. W. Cattington, Julius Wilder, Chauncey Brown, GLASTENBURY, Ralph Carter, Sarah Glastenbury, — Andrus, Roswell Hawley, Eastbury, Solon Stocking, GRANBY, James Case, Joseph F. Jewett, North Granby, Josiah C. Banning, East Granby, Chester Hamlin, West Granby, James D. Wilson, HARTLAND, Wm. H. Huggins, MASHUEN, Wm. C. Williams, Harrison Milne, William Woodbridge, Sydney Rockwell, MARLBORO', L. W. McIntosh, SCARLET, Augustus R. Case, R. A. White, TOTTEN, George W. Sanford, SOUTHINGTON, Julius S. Barnes, Frederic A. Hart, SUFFIELD, Asahel L. Bliss, S. B. Low, WETHERFIELD, Archibald Welch, E. P. Cooke, Asahel Robertson, Rocky Hill, Asahel W. Barrows, WINDSOR, William S. Pierson, Theodore Sill, Henry C. Preston.
West Hartford, Edward Brace.	
AVON, Alfred Kellogg.	
BEECHAM, Harris-Grady, Sylvester Balkley, E. Brandagen, Jr.	
New Britain, Samuel Hart, Lucius Woodruff, E. D. Babcock.	
BLOOMFIELD, John F. Wells.	
Bristol, Jared W. Pardee, Joseph W. Camp.	
BURLINGTON, William Fields, William Elmer, 24, Jeremiah Burdell.	
CANTON, Ezraadon Kason, Thomas G. Hazen.	
COLLINGSVILLE, Saml. W. Brown, R. H. Tiffany.	
EAST HARTFORD, Parker Boothell, E. H. Hall.	
EAST WINDSOR, <i>Elijah P. Reed</i> , Horace C. Gillette.	
SCHENCK, Hiram Watson.	
ESTHER, J. P. Converse, A. L. Spalding.	

NEW HAVEN COUNTY.

WILLMOORE L. LAY, M. D., Chairman.

ELLY A. JEWETT, M. D., Clerk.

- NEW HAVEN, John Skinner, Edw. Harder, Wm. M. White.
Ipswich, Jonathan Knight, T. P. Munroe, Reynold Webb.
 BEETH, Samuel Pansmore, V. North Madison, G. E. Perkins.
 M. Day, Alfred S. Monson, C. Menden, B. H. Catlin, Gardner
 Hooker, Henry B. Porter, N. B. Barker.
 Ives, E. H. Baber, D. H. Yoder, C. B. McCarty.
 * MOORE, E. D. North, J. August Middlebury, Jacob Lindsay, Ro-
 bert Crane, W. C. Cadin.
 TOTTEN, P. T. Miller, L. A. Thorne, Levi Ives, Piny A. Milford, Andrew French, Hall
 Jewett, J. Thompson Hatch- Allen, Lucius N. Beardsley.
 LAM, L. D. Wilcoxton, D. L. Nagsack, J. D. Meate, Tuno-
 Dungen, G. O. Sumner, D. A. dy, London.
 TYLER, Henry Bronson, Daniel North Bradford, Sheldon Beards-
 Holt, David Pritchard. ley.
 POSTELL, Samuel Lloyd. North Haven, Amos Moody,
 Fair Haven, Charles S. Thes- Chauncey B. Fane.
 son, Lester Keap. Oxford, N. Stone, J. Lounsbury.
 Bethany, Asa C. Woodruff. Orange, P. N. Curtis.
 BRANTON, Willoughby L. Lay. Southbury, Anthony B. Burritt.
 CHESHAM, Asa J. Briggs. South Britain, Nathan C. Bal-
 DWIN.
 DART, W. J. Whiting. Wallingford, Lyman Parker, B.
 Birminghams, Andrew Beards- F. Harrison.
 ley. Waterbury, Joseph Porter, Dan-
 HAMPDENVILLE, Albert Stud- idel Porter, Jr., M. C. Leaven-
 dard, S. C. Johnson, Julius worth, G. L. Platt.
 Kendall, Thomas Stoddard. Woodbridge, Isaac Goodell, An-
 East Haven, Bala Farnham. drew Castle.
 GIMARON, Joel Casfield, Elisha Wolcott, Henry Byington.
 Hutchinson, Alvan Talcott.

NEW LONDON COUNTY.

AVERT DOWNES, M. D., Chairman.

RUTH W. MATHESON, M. D., Clerk.

- NEW LONDON, Archibald Mercer, John Dyer, Jr., Joseph Peabody,
 Dyer T. Beaman, Nathaniel E. Palmer, B. T. Bath, Ru-
 S. Pughes, James Morgan, I. fus W. Matheson, J. W.
 G. Proctor, William W. Mims, Brooks, B. Fordyce Barker,
 Charles E. Ames. Ashbel B. Haile, John D. Ford,
 Robert A. Marwaring.
 NORWICH, R. P. Tracy, Ralph Borch, Samuel Johnson.
 Passanowith, Worthington Hoo- Colchester, Ezekiel W. Parsons,
 ler, Chauncey Birgins, Eli

Frederic Morgan, J. R. Dorr.	Pleasant Valley, William W. J. Warren.
East Lyme, John L. Smith, Austin F. Perkins.	Montrille, Ephraim Fellows, W. A. Babcock.
Franklin, Asahel Woodward.	Unassville, Jedediah R. Gay, J. C. Boiles.
Greenwald.	North Stonington, Thomas P. Waules, Alvah Gray.
Jewett City, Lewis Tyler, Alonzo Fuller.	Preston, Avery Downer, Elmer B. Downing.
Groton, John O. Miner, Joseph Darley.	Pogonoree, C. S. Avery, A. W. Conit.
Portersville, Benjamin F. Stoddard, Elias F. Coats.	Salen, J. P. Fuller.
Lebanon, Joseph Comstock, E. Osgood, R. P. Green.	Stratton, W. Robertson, Wm Hyde, G. E. Palmer, William Hyde, Jr.
Ledyard, H. H. Loomis.	Mytic, Marion Manning.
Lisbon, Vane Smith.	Waterford, James Rogers.
Lyme, Richard Noyes, John Noyes, Shubael F. Bartlett.	
Hemfarg, John C. M. Brockway.	

FAIRFIELD COUNTY.

ELIJAH MIDDLEDORP, M. D., Chairman.

GEORGE BLACKMAN, M. D., Clerk.

FAIRFIELD, Josiah T. Denison.	E. Erwin, George Judson, Thomas Dutton.
S. P. V. R. Ten Broeck.	Norwalk, John A. McLean, E. Binal, Ira Gregory.
Greenfield, Rufus Blakestein.	Bedding, Charles Gorham.
Sacchariet, James Sherwood.	Stanford, Chauncey Ayers, N. D. Haight.
Bridgeport, Samuel Sargent, D. H. Nash, Samuel Beach, Wm. L. Watson.	Stratford, Wm. T. Shelton, John Goulding.
Brookfield, Noah A. Lovey, A. L. Williams.	Tranball, ELIJAH MIDDLEBROOK, Stephens Middlebrook, George Dyer, E. B. Middlebrook.
Danbury, Daniel Comstock, R. B. Bonford, E. P. Bennett.	Weston, Lloyd Seeley, James Baldwin.
Darien, Warren Percival.	Westport, George Blackman, J. Juncosy.
Huntington, James H. Shelton.	Wilton, Sylvester Mead.
Monroe, Sturges Bulkley, Salmon H. Hall.	
New Canaan, Samuel S. Noyes, Lewis Richards.	
Newtown, Cyrenius H. Booth.	

WINNHAM COUNTY.

MORTY BURGESS, M. D., Chairman.

WILLIAM HUTCHINS, M. D., Clerk.

BRANDEN, J. B. Whitcomb, W. Hatchins.	Pittsfield, Moss Burgess, Wm. H. Caggs, W. H. Campbell.
Ashford, John H. Simmons, Rodrick Stoddard.	Pamfret, Lewis Williams.
Cannockbury, Elijah Baldwin, Jas Palmer, Elijah Baldwin, Jr.	Abington, Cyrus Hutchins, E. Williams.
Chaplin, Olin Witter.	Pomfret Landing, O. Sumner.
Hampden, Dyer Hughes, Francis A. Brewster.	Stirling, Nathan S. Pike.
Killingly, Justin Hammond, F. H. Perkins.	Thompson, Samuel Bowen.
South Killingly, Daniel A. Hovey.	Voluntown, Harvey Campbell.
West Killingly, David E. Hall, S. Hutchins.	Wintham, Chester Hunt, Wm. Webb, William Winer, Oliver Kingsley, Jr., Calvin B. Bromley.
North Killingly, Henry W. Hough.	Woodstock, Ann Winer, Lorenzo Marcey, Eleazer Litchfield, Milton Bradford.

LITCHFIELD COUNTY.

REVERE M. WOODRUFF, M. D., Chairman.

J. G. BEEBEY, M. D., Clerk.

LITCHFIELD, WILLIAM BUEL.	North Gales, H. V. Beach.
Natural Buel, Josiah G. Beckwith, R. M. Woodruff, Benj. Welch, Jr., Geo. Seymour.	Harwington, F. B. Woodward.
South Farm, G. H. Miner.	Kent, Wm. Boardley, John C. Hatch, Eliza Osborn.
Northfield, F. S. Woodford, D. B. W. Camp.	New Hartford, North, Myron B. Hubbard.
Backhammond, F. B. Graham.	New Hartford, South, John Yale.
Bethlem, Loomis North.	New Milford, Jehiel Williams, George O. Taylor, William B. Lotey.
Bridgewater, Horace Judson.	Norfolk, Benjamin Welch, Wm. W. Welch, W. Cooke.
Canaan, A. A. Wright, G. Adam.	Plymouth, Samuel T. Salisbury.
South Canaan, John A. Gillett, Chas. Reed, Jr.	Plymouth Hollow, William W. Woodruff.
Cornwall, Barritt B. North.	Boxbury, Myron Down.
West Cornwall, S. W. Gold.	Salisbury, Luther Ticknor, O. Plumb.
North Cornwall, John Scovell.	Farmington Village, William James Barry.
Colebrook, Wm. B. DeFries.	
Gaylord's Bridge, Gamaliel H. St. John.	
Garden, Harvey Baldwin, A. M. Huxley.	

Sharon, Ralph Denning, Nathan New Preston, Charles Vail, Sol- S. Posty.	ney H. Lyons, Edward P. Lyman.
Edinboro, Elmore Everett.	
Walcuttsville, Erasmus Bancroft.	Wabersien, John DeForest.
O. B. Freeman.	Winchester, William Carrington.
Warren, Norman Lyman.	Woodbury, Russell C. Abarethy.
Woodville, Manly Peters.	Charles H. Webb, Tho. T. Sly.
Washington, Roman M. Fowler.	Terryville, Charles Byington.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY.

AAA H. KING, M. D., Chairman.

WILLIAM B. CASEY, M. D., Clerk.

MIDDLETOWN, Richard Warner,	Haddam, Ira Hutchinson, W. H.
Joseph Barnett, Thom. Minor,	Tremaine.
Charles Woodward, William	Killingworth, Rufus Turner.
B. Casey, David Harrison, Ha-	Portland, George O. Jarvis, Ste-
milton Brewer, F. Woodruff,	phan A. Fuller, G. C. H. Gil-
Chatham, Chas. Smith, Francis	bert.
G. Edgerton.	Saybrook, Asa H. King.
Chester, Ambrose Pratt.	Essex, Almon H. Hough, Fred-
Durham, Seth L. Child.	erick W. Shepherd.
East Haddam, Asa M. Holt, Da-	Deep River, Rufus Baker.
vid William, Eliza B. Nye.	Westbrook, Horace Burr.

TOLLAND COUNTY.

EARL SWIFT, M. D., Chairman.

AMIAN LADD, M. D., Clerk.

TOLLAND, Abijah Ladd, Oliver K.	Mansfield, South, Earl Swift.
Isman.	Mansfield, North, Norman Big-
Bolton, Orin Hunt, C. F. Sam-	lan, Wm. H. Richardson.
ner.	Somers, Orson Wood, Erasmus
Columbia, ——— McIntosh.	E. Hamilton.
Coventry, North, Eleanor Hunt.	Stafford, Joseph C. Dow, Joshua
Coventry, South, Timothy Dim-	Blodget, William N. Clark.
ock.	Union, Ebenezer Lindsey.
Ellington, Allen Hyde, Herman	Vernon, Stearns Blackley, Al-
Dow, J. H. Manning.	ben Skinner.
Habron, JOHN S. PETERS.	Wallington, Francis L. Dickin-
Orin C. White, J. O. Leemis.	son.

SUMMARY OF MEMBERS.

	Taxable.	Not Taxable.	Total.
Hartford County,	73	4	77
New Haven "	64	8	72
New London "	54	7	61
Fairfield "	58	2	40
Litchfield "	52	7	59
Windham "	34	1	35
Middlesex "	26	0	26
Tolland "	21	4	25
	<hr/> 292	<hr/> 24	<hr/> 316

DUTIES OF CLERKS.

To name the County Meetings.

To record the proceedings of the County Meetings.

To collect the taxes and pay the same to the Treasurer.

To transmit to the Secretary a list of the elected Fellows, and the persons recommended as a candidate for a gratuitous course of lectures, immediately after the County meetings, for publication.

To make certificates of Fellowship, to be transmitted to the Secretary, on or before the first day of the Convention.

To transmit duplicate lists of the Members of the Society to the Secretary and Treasurer, on or before the first day of the Convention, on the penalty of five dollars for each neglect.

To return the names of delinquent Members of the Society.

DISSERTATIONS READ IN CONVENTIONS.

1794. Dr. S. H. Lee, on Autumnal Bilious Fever.
 " Dr. Gideon Shepherd, on the Properties of Opium.
 1798. Dr. F. P. Oaviers, on the Preparations of Anatomy.
 " Dr. Thaddeus Bentz, on the different species of Colic.
 1796. Dr. F. P. Oaviers, on the Corruption of Yellow Fever.
 " Dr. S. H. P. Lee, on Cynanche Tonsillaris.
 " Dr. Lewis Collins, on the most eligible mode of increasing Medical Knowledge in this State.
 " Dr. Gideon Shepherd, on the same subject.
 " Dr. James Potter, " An Oration."
 1798. Dr. Samuel Hopkins, case of Bilious Concretion.
 " Dr. Jared Potter, " An Essay."
 1799. Dr. Thaddeus Clark, a Dissertation.
 1800. Dr. Nathaniel Dwight, on Lousacy.
 1804. Dr. Samuel Willard, on the Stafford Mineral Waters.
 1817. Dr. W. R. Fowler, on the deleterious effects of Ardent Spirits.
 1818. Dr. William Bach, on Ergon.
 1820. Dr. Thomas Miner, on Typhus Fever.
 1821. Dr. Samuel Rockwell, on Uterine Hemorrhage.
 1822. Dr. William Tully, on the Yellow Fever of Middletown.
 1823. Dr. Dyer T. Beniard.
 1827. Dr. Samuel B. Woodward, on the Biography of the Physicians of this State.
 1829. Dr. George Sumner, on Extra-uterine Conception.
 1830. Dr. Charles Hooker, on Diseases of the Ear.
 1835. Dr. Benjamin Welch, Jr., on the Vitality of the Blood.
 1836. Dr. E. H. Bishop, on the influence of Moral Emotions on Disease.
 1837. Dr. Archibald Welch, on Scarlet Fever.
 1838. Dr. Isaac G. Potter, on the Disease commonly denominated Spinal Irritation.
 1839. Dr. Henry Bromont, on the Mental qualifications necessary to a Physician.
 1840. Dr. Richard Warner, on the advantages of prompt and efficient practice in Acute Diseases.

1841. Dr. Amariah Brigham, on Insanity as a subject of Medical Jurisprudence.
 1842. Dr. Charles Woodward, on Uterine Irritation.
 1843. Dr. Preskney W. Eilsworth, on Phlebotomy.
 1844. Dr. Worthington Hooker, on the respect due to the Medical Profession, and the reasons that it is not awarded by the community.
 1845. Dr. Nathan B. Ives, on Laryngismus Stridulus.

BY-LAWS.

§ I.—COUNTY MEETINGS.

1. The Members of the Society, at any County Meeting legally holden, may, by a major vote of the numbers present, admit to membership in the Society any person regularly licensed to practice physic and surgery, and practicing in said county, who shall make application for that purpose.

2. They may, by a similar vote, dismiss from the Society any Member who shall remove from this State, or who shall leave the profession for other pursuits.

3. They may also, if they deem it expedient, recommend to the President and Fellows of the Society, for dismission from the same, any Member residing in their respective Counties, who shall apply for such dismission by a written request to that effect delivered to the Clerk of the County Meeting, at least ten days before the time of holding any legal County Meeting; and also any Member who shall re-

fine or neglect to pay taxes : and upon the approval of such recommendation by the President and Fellows in Convention, the connection between such Member and the Society shall be dissolved. *Provided*, that no Member shall be honorably dismissed from the Society until all his taxes shall have been paid.

4. All violations of the By-Laws of the Society, or of the Medical Police adopted by the Society, or of the Rules and Regulations passed by the County Meetings, in conformity with the By-Laws of the Society, may be prosecuted and tried by the Members of the Society, in their respective County Meetings, under the following regulations, viz :

The Member accusing another of a violation of any of the before-mentioned Regulations, shall make a statement in writing of the transaction which he deems a misdemeanor, and lay the same before a Fellow of the Society ; and such Fellow shall issue a notification to the accused, to appear before the next County Meeting, stating the time when, and the place where, it is to be held, to defend, if he see fit, against said accusation. A copy of such accusation and notification shall be left with the accused, or at his last usual place of abode, at least twelve days previous to the time of holding the next County Meeting. And the accuser shall cause the said accusation and notification to be served and returned to the Clerk of the County Meeting, on or before the day of their sitting ; and the offender, upon conviction, may be punished by admonition, by suspension from the privileges of the Society for a period not exceeding two years, or by expulsion from the Society. *Provided*, that no sentence of expulsion shall be valid until confirmed by the President and Fellows in Convention.

5. The several County Meetings are authorized to make such regulations as their local circumstances may require : *Provided*, that such regulations be not contrary to the laws of the State, or the By-Laws of this Society.

6. When a new Clerk is chosen in any of the Counties, his predecessor shall deliver over to him all the records and papers appertaining to the office, retaining copies of the same if he think proper.

The Clerks of the several County Meetings shall take the following oath, viz:

"You, A. B., being chosen Clerk of the Meeting of the Medical Society for the County of ———, do swear that you will record all votes of said meetings, and give true copies of the same, when thereto requested, so help you God."

7. The Clerks shall transmit the names and places of residence of the Fellows, and of the person recommended for a gratuitous course of lectures, to the Secretary, immediately after the election in April, that the same may be published at least a week before the Convention. They shall also forward to the Secretary, and a duplicate copy to the Treasurer, on or before the first day of the Convention, the names of the members in their respective Counties, and their places of residence; and those who fail in the performance of this duty, shall be subject to a fine of five dollars, to be collected by the Treasurer.

§ 11. — MEMBERS.

8. Each Member of the Society shall have free access to the records of the Society, and of the County Meeting to which he belongs; and may take attested copies thereof if he request them.

9. All Members of this Society are invited to be present at the meetings of the President and Fellows, and to partake of the dinner on the first day of the session.

10. No Member of this Society shall be called on for a tax that shall have been laid after he has arrived at the age of sixty years.

11. If any member of the Society shall make void, or

publicly recommend any nostrum or patent medicine, and be thereof convicted, he shall be suspended from the privileges of the Society, or expelled.

12. No Member of the Society shall hold professional consultation or intercourse with any other than licensed Physicians and Surgeons, in regular standing.

13. It shall be the duty of each Member of this Society to accuse any other Member of the Society, for such misdemeanors as he deems contrary either to the By-Laws, Medical Police, or Rules and Regulations adopted by the Society. And the accuser shall make a statement in writing, of the transactions which he deems a misdemeanor, and lay the same before a Fellow of the Society; and such Fellow shall issue a notice to the accused, to appear before the President and Fellows at their next Convention, stating the time and place of their sitting, to defend, if he see cause, against said accusation. A copy of said accusation and notification shall be left with the accused, or at his last usual place of abode, at least twelve days previous to the next Convention of the President and Fellows. And the accuser shall cause the said accusation and notification to be served and returned to the President and Fellows on the first day of their sitting.

§ III. — OFFICERS, FELLOWS, &c.

14. The President and Fellows shall each receive two dollars for his attendance in the Convention, and twelve and a half cents for each mile's travel from the town of his residence to that of the Convention; mileage to be reckoned as it is to members of our State Legislature. The Dissertator shall be entitled to the same.

15. The Fellows of the Society shall be a Committee of Abatements in their respective Counties.

16. Each person receiving a license to practice from this Society, shall pay the sum of four dollars to the Clerk of

the Committee of Examination, who shall account with the Treasurer for the same.

17. The Secretary shall be required to take the following oath, viz:

"You, A. B., being chosen Secretary of the Connecticut Medical Society, do swear that you will record all votes of the President and Fellows, and give true copies when thereto requested, and faithfully perform all the duties relating to said office, *to help you God.*"

It shall be the duty of the Secretary to record all the transactions of the President and Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society in their Conventions, give true copies of the same when thereto requested, conduct their correspondence, and have the custody of the seal of the Society.

The Secretary is also instructed to send, each year, an extra copy of the Proceedings of the Convention to each of the Clerks, for the use of the County Meetings.

He is also requested to put up, each year, in at least three public houses in the town in which the Convention meets, a written notice of the place of meeting, at least one day before the sitting of the Convention.

18. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep the moneys of the Society, subject to their orders, and to render annually to the President and Fellows an account of all moneys received and paid by him. He is also directed to make out a general debenture bill, taking for his guide the mileage allowed by the Legislature of the State.

He shall be allowed ten dollars for his services, on his account being accepted, at the end of each year.

No debenture bill shall be paid by the Treasurer, that is more than seventeen years old.

19. The President of the Society and the Clerk of the Committee of Examination are authorized to grant a new License, free of expense, to any person who has

been previously licensed, according to the laws of this State, upon satisfactory proof being exhibited to them that such previous license has been lost.

20. The Committee of Examination, the Committee to nominate Professors in the Medical Institution, and the Committee to nominate the Physician to the Retreat for the Insane, shall be chosen by ballot. All other Committees shall be appointed by the Presiding Officer of the Convention.

21. The Standing Committees of the Society are requested annually to report to the President and Fellows, whenever they shall have occasion to act in their official capacity.

NOTE.—The Dissertation read by Dr. Ives before the Convention was prepared in haste, and while he was suffering from ill health, and would therefore, he says, require considerable revision to render it suitable for publication. As his health is not yet such as to permit him to revise it, it was thought advisable in accordance with his request, to proceed without any farther delay to the publication of the Proceedings, though the members of the Society lose thereby the perusal of Dr. Ives' valuable paper.

PROCEEDINGS

AT THE

ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

CONNECTICUT MEDICAL SOCIETY,

MAY, 1846,

TOGETHER WITH

A LIST OF MEMBERS, AND THE ANNUAL ADDRESS,

HARTFORD.

PRESS OF CARE, TIFFANY AND BURNHAM.

First series, Journal of THOMAS.

(120)

Officers of the Society.

ARCHIBALD WELCH, M. D., PRESIDENT.

DYER T. BRAINARD, M. D., VICE PRESIDENT.

V. M. DOW, M. D., TREASURER.

GURDON W. RUSSELL, M. D., SECRETARY.

*. The obituary notices of Luther Tuckner, M. D., were kindly furnished for distribution to the members of the Society.

*Proceedings of the Annual Convention of the President
and Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society, held
at the Medical College, New Haven, May 13th and
14th, 1846.*

The Convention was called to order by Archibald Welch, M. D., who alluded briefly to the death of the late President, Luther Ticknor, M. D.

A communication was read from the Secretary, Wothington Hooker, M. D., declining a re-election, and on motion, Gordon W. Russell, M. D., was appointed Secretary, *pro tem*.

Drs. Blakeman, Litchfield, and Gold, were appointed a Committee on the Election of Fellows, and they reported that the following persons were duly elected.

HARTFORD COUNTY.

E. W. Carrington, M. D.
Charles Hardin, M. D.
Gordon W. Russell, M. D.
Samuel B. Fuller, M. D.
David S. Dodge, M. D.

NEW HAVEN COUNTY.

Ed. Ives, M. D.
W. L. Lay, M. D.
Charles Hooker, M. D.
Amos Moody, M. D.
M. C. Leavenworth, M. D.

NEW LONDON COUNTY.

Avery Downer, M. D.
Chauncy Burgess,
*J. P. Fuller, M. D.
Lucius Tyler, M. D.
Benjamin T. Routh, M. D.

WINDHAM COUNTY.

Harvey Campbell, M. D.
William H. Cogswell, M. D.
Ezra Litchfield, M. D.
Frederic H. Peckham, M. D.
Lewis Williams, M. D.

LITCHFIELD COUNTY.

Johnson C. Hatch, M. D.
Samuel W. Gold, M. D.
*R. M. Woodruff, M. D.
Myron Downer, M. D.
Manly Peters, M. D.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY.

Samuel Simons, M. D.
Rufus Blakeman, M. D.
Samuel Beach, M. D.
George Blackman, M. D.
*Lloyd Seeley, M. D.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY.
 Hamilton Beecher, M. D.
 Rufus Baker, M. D.
 Ambrose Pratt, M. D.

TOLLAND COUNTY.
 Abijah Ladd, M. D.
 *Norman Brigham,
 Charles F. Sumner, M. D.

The Report of the Treasurer was read, and Drs. Simons, Cogswell, and Burgess were appointed to audit the same.

Abstract of the Treasurer's Report.

Due from Clerks, supposed to be good,	\$867 47
Due to the Treasurer,	\$22 65½
Outstanding debentures,	278 00
Average abatements, 13 per cent.,	112 70½
Commission on collections,	37 71½
	<hr/> 451 07½
Balance in favor of the Society,	416 39½

Drs. S. B. Fuller, and Root, were appointed a Committee on debentures.

Communications having been received from Hartford, and Windham Counties, relating to the dismission of delinquent members, it was

Resolved, That a Committee of one from a County be appointed, to whom all resolutions shall be referred, in relation to dissolving the connexion of members with the Connecticut Medical Society.

Drs. Hamlin, Moody, Tyler, Beach, Campbell, Hatch, Baker and Sumner, were appointed on the above resolution.

Dr. Downer offered the following, which was passed.

Resolved, That no member shall speak more than twice on one subject, unless to explain himself, or by liberty from the Chair.

Resolved, That a Committee of one from a County be appointed on the subject of candidates for the gratuitous course of Lectures, and

Drs. Hamlin, Leavenworth, Burgess, Blackman, Williams, Peters, Pratt and Sumner, were appointed.

Drs. Dodge, Ives, Downer, Blackman, Cogswell, Gold,

Brewer and Ladd, were appointed a Committee on Honorary Degrees and Honorary Membership.

A communication was received from Hartford County, proposing certain questions, which, on motion, was laid upon the table.

Dr. Russell, Moody and Campbell, were appointed to nominate a Dissociator for the next Convention.

The standing rule adopted two years since, postponing the ordinary business of the Convention to the second day of the session, was, on motion, dispensed with, so far as related to the election of President, and it was ordered that the first business of the afternoon shall be the election of the same.

The Committee appointed to audit the Treasurer's account, reported,

That they had attended to the same, and found it to be clearly kept, and correct.

And they would further respectfully represent, that they deem the deficit of the Treasury is owing, not to the laws respecting collection, but to a want of their execution, and therefore recommend the following resolution.

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of the Treasurer, and he is hereby directed, to enforce prompt settlement with the several County Clerks.

The Report was accepted, and the Resolution passed, as did the following, submitted by Dr. Simms.

Resolved, That the expenses incurred by the Clerks of the Counties, in collecting any tax or taxes, shall be cancelled and paid by the Treasurer.

Adjourned till half past three P. M.

AFTERNOON.

The Convention met at half past three, P. M., and proceeded to the choice of a President, and upon balloting,

ARCHIBALD WELCH, M. D.

was chosen.

Dr. Baile submitted the following, which passed.

Resolved, By the President and Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society, in Convention assembled, That in the death of Luther Ticknor, M. D., late President of the Medical Society of this State, the Profession has lost a prominent member; the

community in which he moved, a valuable citizen; the cause of Literature, of Morality, and of Religion, a devoted friend. To the family of the deceased, we offer our sincerest sympathy.

Resolved, That the Secretary be directed to transmit a copy of the above to the family of the deceased.

The standing rule, partially suspended this forenoon, was further suspended, and it was

Resolved, That all the officers of the Society be now chosen.

The following persons were then elected for the year ensuing:

DYER T. BRAINARD, M. D., *Vice President*.

V. M. DOW, M. D., *Treasurer*.

GURDON W. RUSSELL, M. D., *Secretary*.

Dr. Campbell submitted the following resolution, which, after considerable discussion, was laid upon the table.

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed on behalf of the Connecticut Medical Society, to be joined by an equal number of the Medical Professors in Yale College, to petition the Legislature now in session, for an alteration of the second section of "An Act in relation to the Medical Institution of Yale College," so that the price of tickets for the course of Lectures, on each branch of instruction in said Institution, shall not exceed ten dollars; and that so much of the third section of said act, as provides for a gratuitous course of Lectures in said Institution, to one person from each County, be repealed.

The Report of the Examining Committee was then read, accepted, and ordered to be published with the Proceedings.

The Committee of Examination appointed by the Convention in May, 1845, here attended to the duty assigned them, and respectfully submit the following Report:

The board convened at the Medical Institution of Yale College, on the 21st of January, at ten o'clock, A. M., and continued the session until the 23d. All the members of the Committee, except Silas Fuller, M. D., who was detained by sickness, and all the Professors of the Institution were present.

The number of students who had attended two full courses of Lectures, and who were entitled to an examination for a degree of Doctor in Medicine, was nineteen, all of whom were admitted to the degree; and two who had attended but one course of Lectures, were examined by the board, and licensed

to practice physic and surgery, by Luther Ticknor, M. D., President of the Society.

It is proper for the Committee to say, that the examination which has been made by them in former years, has been more thorough than the last, and none has been more satisfactory.

The candidates gave good evidence of having been diligent in their studies during their pupillage with private instructors; and of having profited in a high degree while attending the Lectures at our own highly valued Institution.

Your Committee would not do justice to their own feelings, to the Society by whom they were appointed, nor to the Medical Institution of Yale College, should they forbear to express the high estimation which they entertain of the ability with which instruction is communicated, by the able Professors, in their several departments; and we consider it the duty of the members of the profession to commend to their pupils the superior advantages of the Medical Institution of Yale College; and that those pupils be made acquainted with the fact, that the Anatomical Museum and Cabinet of Materia Medica, are ample in their provisions, and that the Laboratory abounds with all the apparatus necessary for illustrations in Chemistry, that highly interesting and useful department of science.

Although there is not a separate chair of Medical Jurisprudence, your Committee are authorized by the Professors to say, that in their several departments, this important branch of science is thoroughly taught. The annual address to the candidates was delivered in the chapel, by William H. Cogswell, M. D., one of the Board of Examiners, and was replete with valuable instruction of practical importance, and well adapted to the occasion. The valedictory address by Nathaniel W. Taylor, Jr., one of the graduates, was ably written, and attentively listened to by the class, and the audience.

Rufus Blakeman, M. D. was appointed to give the annual address at the examination in 1847, and Josiah G. Beckwith, M. D., his substitute.

Your Committee deem it a duty not to be neglected, to notice the death of the worthy and efficient President of the Board, which occurred since our last meeting. As a member of the board, he was prompt and assiduous, and his death, in the midst of activity and usefulness, will long be regarded by an extensive circle of warm friends, and particularly by the Medical Society of Connecticut, as one of the mysterious dispensations of Divine Providence.

By order of the Committee, ARCHIBALD WELCH.

The Secretary presented the following resolutions from Hartford County.

Resolved, That the fourteenth By-Law of the Connecticut

Medical Society, relating to the payment of members of the Convention for attendance and mileage, should be repealed.

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Secretary of the State Society, and that the Fellows be instructed to urge the repeal of the above mentioned By-Law.

After some discussion, the eyes and noses being ordered, it was decided that the By-Law should not be repealed, eyes 3, noses 25.

The Committee on Honorary Degrees and Honorary Membership, reported; and George O. Sumner, of New Haven, Chauncey Burgess, of Norwich, and Joseph C. Dow, of Stamford, were recommended as candidates for the Honorary Degree of Doctor in Medicine.

The Committee on the admission of delinquent members, reported:

That in their opinion, the President and Fellows of this Society, ought not to approve of the resolutions passed by Hartford and Windham Counties, until legal steps have been taken by the Clerks of said Counties, to enforce collection of said taxes, unless judged by them impracticable; after which the connexion between the Society and such members ought to be dissolved.

And that the several County Clerks be instructed to report the names of such delinquents, to this Convention, at its session in 1847, for further action.

The report was accepted, and the Convention then adjourned till eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

May 14th.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to nominate a Dissertator, reported the name of E. K. Hunt, M. D., of Hartford, and he was appointed.

The Standing Committees were then chosen as follows:

ARCHIBALD WELCH, M. D., <i>ex officio</i> .	} Committee of Examination.
GEORGE SUMNER, M. D.,	
J. G. BLACKWITH, M. D.,	
WILLIAM H. CONSWELL, M. D.,	
RYFEN BLAKEMAN, M. D.,	
RICHARD WARNER, M. D.,	

ELI IVES, M. D.,	}	<i>Committee to nominate Physician of the Retreat for the Insane.</i>
ISAAC G. PORTER, M. D.,		
SAMUEL BEACH, M. D.,		
WILLIAM WITTER, M. D.,		
JOHNSON C. HATCH, M. D.,		

WILLIAM S. PIERSON, M. D.,	}	<i>Committee to nominate Professors in the Medical Institution of Yale College.</i>
REYNOLD WHEEL, M. D.,		
ASHFEL WOODWARD, M. D.,		
E. K. HUNT, M. D.,		
GEORGE BLACKMAN, M. D.,		

The Committee on Debentures made a Report, which was accepted.

Dr. Cogswell made an informal report of the proceedings of the National Convention, lately held in New York, and submitted a resolution, which after being amended, was passed as follows:

Resolved, That the County meetings have power to appoint one delegate each, to the National Medical Convention, to be held in Philadelphia, on the first Wednesday in May, 1847; and they are hereby requested to make such appointment, and make return thereof to the Secretary of the State Society.

The Committee on the subject of candidates for the gratuitous course of Lectures, reported the following resolution, which was passed.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Convention, that in case the student recommended from any County is not necessary and meritorious, it has full power to declare that a vacancy exists, and may proceed to fill the same.

A motion was made and passed, that mileage be allowed all members of the Extra Convention, held in Hartford, in April last.

A Dissertation was then read by Theodore Sill, M. D., entitled "*Practical Observations on Typhoid Fever.*"

Resolved, That the thanks of the Convention be tendered to Dr. Sill, for his dissertation, and that a copy be requested for publication.

Resolved, That whenever the President shall see fit to call a special session of the Convention, besides advertising as now provided, he shall also send a notice to each member, of the

time and place of meeting, which notice shall be mailed at least one week previous to the meeting of such Convention.

Resolved, That a tax of one dollar and fifty cents be laid on each member for the year ensuing, to be collectable on and after the first day of June next.

Resolved, That Mr. Green be requested to insert in the Connecticut Register, a catalogue of the Officers and Fellows of the Medical Convention, and members of the Medical Society, and that the Secretary be directed to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Publisher, with a list of the members.

Resolved, That hereafter the first business of the Convention shall be the reading of the Dissertation.

The persons recommended by the County Societies to attend gratuitously a course of Lectures in the Medical Institution of Yale College, are Edwin Bidwell, Hartford; George E. Buddington, New Haven; ——— Trask, Fairfield; Horace Briggs, Windham; Seth P. Ford, Litchfield; Albert B. Worthington, New London; Charles Cane, Middlesex; Silas F. Lindsey, Tolland.

Adjourned, *sine die*.

Attest,

GEORGE W. RUSSELL, Secretary.

MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY.

HONORARY MEMBERS

*TELEX PASCALIS,	New York.
JAMES JACKSON,	Boston, Mass.
JOHN C. WARREN,	" "
*SAMUEL L. MITCHELL,	New York.
*DAVID HOSACK,	" "
*WRIGHT POST,	" "
BENJAMIN SELIGMAN,	New Haven.
GEORGE MCLELLAN,	Philadelphia, Pa.
JOHN MACKIE,	Providence, R. I.
*CHARLES ELDRIDGE,	East Greenwich, R. I.
THEODORE ROSEYNS HOOK,	Albany, N. Y.
JAMES THATCHER,	Frammish, Mass.
*JOSEPH WHITE,	Cherry Valley, N. Y.
*WILLIAM P. DEWEES,	Philadelphia, Pa.
EDWARD DELAFIELD,	New York.
JOHN DELAMATER,	Little Falls, N. Y.
WALTER CHANNING,	Boston, Mass.
JACOB SIGELOW,	" "
*PHILIP STING PHYSICK,	Philadelphia, Pa.
*LEWIS REHMANN,	U. S. Navy.
DANIEL DRAKE,	Cincinnati, Ohio.
*HENRY MITCHELL,	Newark, N. Y.
NATHAN RYNO SMITH,	Edinboro, Md.
VALENTINE MOTT,	New York.
*SAMUEL WHITE,	Hudson, N. Y.
HEUGEN D. MUNSEY,	Cincinnati, Ohio.
WILLIAM TULLY,	New Haven.
RICHMOND BROWNELL,	Providence, R. I.
WILLIAM BEAUMONT,	U. S. Army.
SAMUEL HENRY DICKSON,	Charlottesville, S. C.
SAMUEL D. WOODWARD,	Worcester, Mass.
JOHN STEARNS,	New York.
STEPHEN W. WILLIAMS,	Dorchester, Mass.
*HENRY GREEN,	Albany, N. Y.
GEORGE FROST,	Springfield, Mass.
WILLARD PARKER,	New York.
BENJAMIN TUCKER,	U. S. Navy.
ALDEN MARCH,	Albany, N. Y.

ORDINARY MEMBERS.

The names of those Members who are exempt from taxation by age, are in Italics; the names of those who have been Presidents of the Society, are in Capitals.

HARTFORD COUNTY.

ARCHIBALD WELCH, M. D., Chairman.

E. K. Hunt, M. D. Clerk.

HARTFORD, SILAS FULNER, Geo. Senner, D. S. Dudge, Henry Holmes, Samuel B. Borschke, George B. Hawley, E. E. Macy, Gordon W. Russell, David Cress, F. W. Edwards, Benjamin Myers, E. K. Hunt, Samuel E. Fuller, Seth Saltmarsh, John S. Butler, Thomas H. Kitching, H. A. Grant, Wm. J. Berry.

West Hartford, Edward Bacon, Aaron, Alfred Kelling.

Easton, Hattie Greeley, Sylvester Bailey, E. Brandager, Jr.

New Britain, Samuel Hart, Lucius Woodruff, E. D. Holbrook.

Easton, John P. Wallis.

Easton, David W. Fisher, Joseph W. Cates.

Easton, William Elton, Ed. Jeremiah Barnwell.

Canaan, Bersalike Kimes, Thomas G. Hays.

Colchester, Samuel W. Brown, Harold H. Ylvis.

East Hartford, Eli Hall, Seth L. Child.

East Windsor, Elijah P. Reed, Horace C. Gillette.

South, Hiram Wilson.

East Brook, Morris L. Fish.

Windsor, Foster, Joseph Olmsted.

Enfield, J. P. Conners, A. L. Spalding.

FARMINGTON, Abner Thompson, E. W. Cartington, Chas. Brown.

Plainville, G. E. Moody.

GRANTSBURY, Ralph Carter.

South Grantsbury, Edward Hawley, ———— Andrus.

Eastbury, Seth Stocking.

GRANTY, Jarvis Cass, Joseph F. Jewett.

North Grants, Josiah C. Bunting.

East Grants, Chester Hamlin.

West Grants, Justin D. Wilson.

HARTLAND, William B. Huggins.

MARCHINGTON, William C. Williams.

William Woodbridge.

HARTBROOK, L. W. McIntosh.

Rocky Hill, Asahel W. Dwyer.

Somers, Rodney A. White.

Poughkeepsie, Geo. W. Sanford, Charles W. Hays.

SOMERSET, Julia S. Barnes.

Frederick A. Hart.

SOUTH WINDSOR, Sidney Rockwell.

Seymour, Asahel L. Russell, Samuel E. Lee.

WATERBURY, ARCHIBALD

WELCH, Asahel Robinson, E. P.

Cook.

WINDSOR, William S. Pomeroy, Theo-

dore Sill, Henry C. Preston.

Windsor, Henry Church.

Windsor Locks, Samuel W. Skinner.

NEW HAVEN COUNTY.

ANDREW FRENCH, M. D., Chairman.

P. A. JEWETT, M. D., Clerk.

NEW HAVEN, John Skinner, Eli
 Jew. T. P. Boers, Jonathan Knight,
 Samuel Pendleton, V. M. Dew, A. S.
 Mason, Charles Hacker, H. B. Porter,
 Nathan B. Ives, E. H. Bishop, D. H.
 Moore, E. D. North, J. A. Totten, P. T.
 Miller, L. A. Thomas, Levi Ives, May
 A. Jewett, J. T. Hutchins, L. D. Wil-
 cession, D. L. Duggett, George D. Sum-
 ner, D. A. Tyler, Henry Brown, David
 Fitcher, J. W. Hallock.
 HARTFORD, Samuel Lloyd.
 FINE RIVER, C. S. Thompson.
 BETHPAN, Amos Woodruff.
 BRANFORD, Willoughby L. Loy.
 CHESHAM, A. J. Driggs, Nehemiah
 Bales.
 DERBY, W. J. Whiting.
 JESSUP, Samuel P. Church.
 BIRMINGHAM, Andrew Boardley.
 MIDDLETOWN, Abram Stoddard,
 Sheldon C. Johnson, Julius Kendall,
 Thomas Stoddard.
 EAST HAVEN, Bela Farnham.
 GRAFTON, J. Condit, Eliza Hatch-
 ings, Alva Talcott.
 HADAM, W. M. White.

HARTFORD, Eymond Webb.
 NORTH HARTFORD, George E. Perkins.
 MANSFIELD, Gardner Barlow.
 WEST MANSFIELD, B. H. Catlin.
 HUNTERDON, Jacob Lindley, Robert
 Crane, W. C. Catlin.
 MILFORD, Andrew French, Hall Ab-
 les, L. N. Roodney.
 NANTUCKET, J. D. Mears, Timothy
 Langdon.
 NORTH BRANFORD, Stephen Board-
 ley.
 NORTH HAVEN, Aaron Mealy, C. E.
 Poole.
 OXFORD, Noah Stone, John Loun-
 bury.
 SOUTHERY, A. B. Farrit.
 SOUTH BRITAIN, N. C. Baldwin.
 WALLINGFORD, Lyman Fisher, Ben-
 jamin F. Herriman.
 YALFORD, C. B. McCarty.
 WATSONVILLE, Joseph Porter, Daniel
 Porter, Jr., M. C. Leavenworth, G. L.
 Platt, W. W. Edman, A. N. Bell.
 WOODBRIDGE, Isaac Goodell, An-
 drew Galle.
 WOODCOTT, Henry Elington.

NEW LONDON COUNTY.

AVERY DOWNER, M. D., Chairman.

JOHN C. BULLER, M. D., Clerk.

NEW LONDON, Archibald Mottet,
 Dyar T. Brainerd, Nathaniel S. Perkins,
 James Morgan, Isaac G. Porter, Wm.
 W. Miner, Charles E. Ames, James
 Riggs, Seth Smith.
 NORWICH, Richard F. Tracy, Wor-
 rington Hooper, Chasmon Rogers,
 Elijah Dyer, Jr., Eliza Finney, Ben-
 jamin T. Smith, Rufus W. Mathewson,
 Jonathan W. Brooks, H. F. Barker,
 Asahel B. Hall, John D. Ford, Robert
 A. Maymaring.
 ROXBURY, Samuel Johnson.
 CHESHAM, Ezekiel W. Parsons,
 Frederick Morgan, James K. How.
 EAST LYME, John L. Smith, Asahel
 F. Perkins.
 FRANKLIN, Asahel Woodruff.
 GRAFTON, Lewis Tyler, Alonzo
 Fuller.
 GRAFTON, Joseph Durkin.
 PATERVILLE, John O. Miner, Benja-
 min F. Stoddard, Elias F. Cook.

LYME, Joseph Conant, Erastus
 Dugard, Richard F. Gerson.
 LYME, David Dyer, H. H. Lewis.
 LYME, Vase Smith.
 LYME, Richard Abies, John Noyes,
 Samuel F. Bartlett.
 MANSFIELD, John C. M. Broadway.
 PLYMOUTH, William W. J.
 Warren.
 MIDDLETOWN, Ephraim Fellows.
 CHESHAM, Zebediah E. Gray, John
 C. Bales.
 NORTH BRANFORD, Thomas P. Wat-
 son, Alva Gray.
 PRINCETON, Avery Downer, Elmer B.
 Downing.
 PRINCETON, H. W. Cook.
 NALDEN, John F. Fuller, William A.
 Babcock.
 SOUTHERY, William Robertson,
 William Hyde, George L. Palmer, Wm.
 Hyde, Jr.
 MYSTIC, Mason Manning.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY.

DANIEL COMSTOCK, M. D., Chairman.

SAMUEL BRACH, M. D., Clerk.

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|---|---|
| FAIRFIELD, Jeremiah T. Deane,
S. F. V. E. Ten Broeck. | NEW CANAAN, Samuel S. Noyes,
Lewis Richards. |
| GREENFIELD, Rufus Hakeman. | NEWTON, Cynthia H. Booth, E. |
| SEBASTOPOL, Justin Sherwood. | Irwin, George Judson, Thomas Dutton. |
| BRIDGEPORT, Samuel Sisson, Sam-
uel Brach, D. H. Nash, William L.
Watson. | NORWALK, John A. McLean, E. Bir-
rell, Iva Gregory. |
| BRIDGEFIELD, Noah A. Loring, A. L.
Williams. | RUMFORD, Charles Gorkham. |
| DANFORTH, Daniel Comstock, R. B.
Robinson, E. F. Bennett. | STAMFORD, Chauncy Ayres, N. D.
Haight. |
| DARWIN, Warren Percival. | SWATON, Wm. T. Shelton, John
Gooding. |
| FAVON, Lloyd Seely, James Bul-
win. | TAUNTON, ELIJAH MIDDLE-
BROOK, Stephen Middlebrook, George
Dyer, E. S. Middlebrook. |
| HUNTINGTON, James H. Shelton. | WATERPORT, George Blackman, J.
January. |
| MOORE, Stephen Bulley, Salome
H. Hall. | WATSON, Sylvester Mead. |

WINDHAM COUNTY.

HIRSH HOLT, M. D., Chairman.

JAMES B. WHITCOMB, M. D., Clerk.

- | | |
|---|--|
| BROOKLYN, James B. Whitcomb,
Daniel M. Hale. | FAIRFIELD Central P. O., Elijah
Baldwin, Jr. |
| ANDOVER, John R. Symonds. | FARMINGTON, Hiram Holt, Lewis Wil-
kins. |
| BRIDGEPORT, Frederick Stebbins. | FRANKLIN, Eliza Williams. |
| CANTON, Elijah Baldwin, Jos-
eph Palmer. | GREENSBORO, Nathan S. Pike. |
| CHARTER, Owen Walter. | THORNTON, Samuel Bowen. |
| HAMPTON, Ozer Hughes. | VALENTOWN, Harvey Campbell. |
| KALINGLY, Justin Hammond. | WINDHAM, Chester Hunt, William
Webb. |
| North Killingly, Henry W. Hough,
Enos H. Peckham. | WILLIAMSBURG, William Water, John
Hill, Jr. |
| South Killingly, Daniel A. Hervey. | SCOTTSBORO, Calvin E. Beasley. |
| West Killingly, David E. Hall,
Samuel Hutchins. | WOODSTOCK, North, Ann Walter. |
| PLAINFIELD, Moses Burgess, Wm. H.
Campbell, Wm. H. Cogswell, Prosper
K. Hutchinson. | South Woodstock, Lorenzo Marcy,
West Woodstock, Elmer Litchfield,
Milton Bradford. |

LITCHFIELD COUNTY.

WILLIAM J. BARRY, M. D., Chairman.

J. G. BECKWITH, M. D., Clerk.

LITCHFIELD, WM. BUEL, Samuel	New Milford, John Williams,
Bell, J. G. Belknap, R. M. Woodruff,	Wm. E. Ledy, George O. Taylor.
George Seymour,	Norwalk, Benjamin Welch, Wm.
South Farm, Garry H. Miner.	W. Welch, W. Cockin.
Northfield, R. S. Woodward.	PERMOUTH, Samuel T. Salisbury,
BARKHAMPTON, F. E. Graham.	Plymouth Hollow, Wm. Woodruff
BETHLEHEM, Loomis North.	ROXBURY, Myron Downs,
BUDGOWAY, Horace Jackson.	SALISBURY, O. P. Ward.
CANAAN, Albert A. Wright, George	Flower Village, Benjamin Welch,
Adams.	Jr.
South Canaan, John A. Gillet.	SHARBY, Ralph Denning, Channery
CORNWALL, Barth S. North.	Road.
West Cornwall, Samuel W. Gold,	Kilmeroth, Elmore Everett.
John Scovell,	Whitcombville, Erasmus Hancock, O. B.
COASTWATER, Wm. E. DeForest.	Freeman.
Gryllford's Bridge, Gamaliel H. St.	WARREN, Norman Lyman.
John.	Whitcomb, Mary Tyson.
Canaan, Harvey Edwin, A. M.	WASHINGTON, E. M. Fowler.
Hesley.	Alta Preston, Sidney H. Lyman, Ed-
HARTINGTON, E. J. Woodward.	ward P. Lyman.
KANE, Wells Bradford, Johnson C.	WATERBURY, John De Forest.
Hick, Eliza Osborn.	Winstedville, James Welch.
NEW HARTINGTON, Alvert, Myron B.	WINDHAM, Russell Abnerdly,
Hulford.	Charles H. Welch, Thomas V. Neely,
Bakersville, John Yale.	Terryville, Charles Dyrington.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY.

DAVID HARRISON, M. D., Chairman.

WILLIAM E. CASEY, M. D., Clerk.

MIDDLEBURY, Richard Water, Jo-	HADDAM, In Hutchinson.
seph Barnett, Thomas Miner, Charles	Biggsboro, Wm. H. Tremaine.
Woodward, Wm. R. Casey, David Har-	KILLBUCKING, Rufus Turner.
rison, Hamilton Brewster, Franklin	PORTLAND, George O. Jarvis, Ste-
Woodruff.	phen A. Fajet, G. C. H. Gilbert.
CRAYTHAM, Charles Smith, Francis	SAYBROOK, Am. H. King.
G. Egerton.	East, Alanson H. Hough, Frederick
CHURCH, Andrew Pyne.	W. Shepard.
DURHAM, Benjamin M. Fowler.	Deep River, Rufus Baker.
EAST HADDAM, Am. H. Holt, Dubo	WATERBURY, Horace Burr, Josiah
Williams, Eliza B. Nye.	H. Beecher.

TOLLAND COUNTY.

EARL SWIFT, M. D., Chairman.

JESSE LANE, M. D., Clerk.

TOLLAND, Oliver E. Schies	MANSFIELD, North, Norman Briggs
ANDOVER, Adoniah White,	—, Wm. H. Richardson.
BRYAN, Orlin Hunt, Charles F. Sumner.	MANSFIELD, South, Earl Swift.
COLUMBIA, Harrison McIntosh.	SOMERS, Orono Wood, Erasmus E.
COVENTRY, North, Elmore Hunt.	HAMILTON, Wm. E. Woods.
COVENTRY, South, Timothy Dimock.	STAFFORD, East, William N. Clark,
ELLINGTON, Allen Hyde, Joseph C. Dorr, J. H. Manning.	Akijah Ladd.
HEATH, JOHN S. PETERS, Orlin C. White, Jacob O. Loomis.	STAFFORD, West, Joshua C. Blodget.
	UNION, Ebenezer Linsley.
	YALBON, Southern, Binsley, Alden Skinner.
	WILLINGTON, Francis L. Dickinson.

SUMMARY OF ORDINARY MEMBERS.

	Taxable.	Not Taxable.	Total.
Hartford County,	74	2	76
New Haven County,	67	8	75
New London County,	71	8	79
Fairfield County,	36	4	40
Litchfield County,	44	7	51
Windham County,	24	1	25
Middlesex County,	21	0	21
Tolland County,	22	4	26
Total,	358	33	391

DUTIES OF CLERKS.

To wait the County Meetings.

To record the proceedings of the County Meetings.

To collect the taxes and pay the same to the Treasurer.

To transmit to the Secretary a list of the elected Fellows, and the person recommended as a candidate for a gratuitous course of lectures, immediately after the County meetings, for publication.

To make certificates of Fellowship, to be transmitted to the Secretary, on or before the first day of the Convention.

To transmit duplicate lists of the Members of the Society to the Secretary and Treasurer, on or before the first day of the Convention, on the penalty of five dollars for each neglect.

To return the names of delinquent Members of the Society.

DISSERTATIONS READ IN CONVENTIONS.

1794. Dr. S. H. P. Lee, on Antimal Elixir Fever.
 " Dr. Galeus Shepherd, on the Properties of Opium.
 1795. Dr. F. P. Ouriere, on the Preparations of Antimony.
 " Dr. Thaddeus Betts, on the different species of Colic.
 1796. Dr. F. P. Ouriere, on the Contagion of Yellow Fever.
 " Dr. S. H. P. Lee, on Cynanche Tonsillaris.
 " Dr. Lewis Collins, on the most eligible mode of increasing Medical Knowledge in this State.
 " Dr. Galeus Shepherd, on the same subject.
 " Dr. James Potter, "An Oration."
 1798. Dr. Samuel Hopkins, case of Bilious Concretion.
 " Dr. Jared Potter, "An Essay."
 1799. Dr. Thaddeus Clark, a Dissertation.
 1800. Dr. Nathaniel Dwight, on Lunacy.
 1804. Dr. Samuel Willard, on the Stafford Mineral Waters.
 1817. Dr. W. R. Fowler, on the deleterious effects of Ardent Spirits.
 1818. Dr. William Root, on Egypt.
 1820. Dr. Thomas Miner, on Typhus Fever.
 1821. Dr. Samuel Rockwell, on Uterine Hemorrhage.
 1822. Dr. William Tully, on the Yellow Fever at Middletown.
 1823. Dr. Dyer T. Brainerd.
 1827. Dr. Samuel B. Woodward, on the Biography of the Physicians of the State.
 1829. Dr. George Sumner, on Extra-uterine Conception.
 1830. Dr. Charles Hooker, on Diseases of the Ear.
 1835. Dr. Benjamin Welch, Jr., on the Vitality of the Blood.
 1836. Dr. E. H. Bishop, on the influence of Moral Emotions on Disease.
 1837. Dr. Archibald Welch, on Scarlet Fever.
 1838. Dr. Isaac G. Porter, on the Disease commonly denominated Spinal Irritation.
 1839. Dr. Henry Bronson, on the Mental qualifications necessary to a Physician.
 1840. Dr. Richard Warner, on the advantages of prompt and efficient practice in Acute Diseases.
 1841. Dr. Amariah Brigham, on Insanity as a subject of Medical Jurisprudence.
 1842. Dr. Charles Woodward, on Uterine Irritation.
 1843. Dr. Pinckney W. Ellsworth, on Phlebitis.
 1844. Dr. Warhington Hooker, on the respect due to the Medical Profession, and the reasons that it is not awarded by the community.
 1845. Dr. Nathan B. Fess, on Laryngismus Stridulus.
 1846. Dr. Theodore Sill.—Observations on Typhus Fever.

DISSERTATION.

OBSERVATIONS ON TYPHOUS FEVER.

BY THEODORE HILL, M. D.

[Read at the Annual Meeting, May 24, 1836.]

In presenting for the consideration of this Convention, a few remarks upon so common a subject as typhous fever, it is not my aim to present an elaborate theoretical essay upon its symptoms, diagnosis, prognosis, theory or treatment; nor with a spirit of unkindness, and arrogant assertion, to condemn the views or treatment of my respected medical brethren; but in the calm confidence of a truth-loving, truth-seeking spirit, to communicate to the Convention the results of a careful investigation, of fourteen years, of the character of this formidable disease, and the treatment best adapted to prevent a fatal termination.

It is the most formidable disease that I have met in my own practice, and in the practice of my neighboring brethren;—one that I have had to contend with in my own family, and in the families of my professional friends; and I offer the results only of what I have seen. That there exists strong and marked differences of opinion, confusion and discrepancy, in the opinion of medical men, in regard to the treatment of acute febrile diseases, all will admit; and that it is of the utmost importance that this confusion and discrepancy be reconciled and modified, so far as is possible, all will doubtless admit; and what so likely to effect this, as spreading out before each other the results of our personal practice and observation, and receiving these results, not with a biased and coviling spirit,

but with a spirit of candor and honesty ; a spirit of ardent devotion to our profession, and to the interests of humanity.

I adopt the name of *Typhoid fever*, as the one most common—meaning to include, under this name, both the typhoid and typhous form of Louis, Bartlett and others; and to consider them as one and the same disease, differing only according to accidental circumstances, such as the constitution, temperament or habits of the patient, severity of the attack or malignancy of type. Indeed I cannot discover any thing, from my own practice, which makes the distinction of the above-named authors, otherwise than non-essential.

Symptoms.—Before enumerating the symptoms of this disease, I would premise,—There is no *one* symptom—no *two* or *three* symptoms—which of themselves characterize the disease; and many cases occur where many symptoms, usually present, may not be absent during its entire progress, whether to a favorable or fatal termination. Neither is there any specific mode of attack, by which the character of the disease can be determined; for there is probably no disease of an acute character, where the attack is more slow and gradual, than in this; and yet, there are usually strong and distinctive characteristics of a typhoid type of fever. In by far the largest proportion of cases that have fallen under my own observation, it has been utterly impossible to determine, with any accuracy, upon what day the fever commences. I am aware that some medical writers claim that the attack is suddenly and violent; but the general testimony of authors is opposed to this view of the case.

Dr. Nathan Smith says,—“the disease attacks in such a gradual manner, that we hardly know on what day to fix its commencement.”

Dr. Jas. Jackson says—“there is more difficulty, perhaps, in ascertaining the commencement in cases of typhus fever, than in many other acute diseases.”

Dr. Good says—“the first symptoms are slight; there is nothing alarming to the patient or his friends on its accession.”

The usual testimony of the patient, and that of the friends upon calling a physician is, that for several days—and sometimes weeks—the patient has been drooping about, feeble and

debilitated, indisposed, as well as physically unable, to attend to his ordinary avocation; that he finds himself from day to day growing more feeble, with an entire loss of appetite, moderate thirst, and general sensation of soreness or fatigue, especially upon the slightest exertion. He will often complain of dull pain in the head, in the back and limbs, and ordinarily will have had slight chills, alternating with heat, and frequently with an undue determination of blood to the head, attended with cold extremities.

The first sensations differing from those of health, are expressed as those of weakness and debility, and these gradually increasing upon him from day to day, until the more characteristic symptoms and strongly marked phenomena of the disease are developed.

My time has not permitted me to classify the ordinary symptoms as I could wish. I will briefly enumerate them as they ordinarily and successively appear.

Febile Symptoms.—There are usually, though by no means invariably, during the first week, moderate chills, generally at the close of the day, and often merely upon going to bed. In many of the grave cases, the patient is not conscious of having had chills during its progress.

The heat and state of the skin is ordinarily very variable; sometimes excessively hot and dry, and at other times moderately warm and moist, and not infrequently with profuse sweats. And here I would remark, that the peculiar odor arising from typhoid patients, and spoken of by Nathan Smith and others, is confined almost wholly to the sweating cases; and in these it is peculiar and strongly marked, pervading usually the whole house, and observed immediately on entering the door.

The peculiar dry and burning heat so often spoken of by authors, and termed by Cullen "*Cake Mordax*," is occasionally found in the early stages of the grave forms of the disease, but ordinarily not until the second or third week of the fever. It is always, I believe, whether appearing early or late in the case, an indication of a malignant form of disease.

The pulse, from the onset, is usually small and frequent; and during what is sometimes appropriately called the

"walking stage," is daily increasing in frequency, and lessening in force. In the mild forms of the disease, rarely varying above 100 or 110, and in the grave cases frequently reaching 140, and sometimes 160. Bartlett and others say, that irregularity of the pulse is rarely ever found. My own experience leads me to differ materially with them upon this point; for with two or three exceptions, I have ever found a peculiar irregularity of the pulse, and that early. This irregularity is hardly describable, and yet it is distinct, and so far as I have observed, peculiar to this form of disease. The pulse usually steadily increases in frequency in the final crisis, until death, or remains stationary until a decided crisis, and the patient convalesces. And I would here remark, that in a heavy case of typhus fever, no one symptom is better calculated to give increased hope for the patient, than a decrease in the frequency of the pulse.

I am aware that the pulse alone is often a deceptive guide in the treatment of this disease; occasionally deceiving the very best judges respecting the danger, unless special attention is paid to the other attending symptoms. In repeated instances have I known bleeding proposed by counsel, when the attending physician knew the patient to be in *articulo mortis*—and in a large number of cases that have come to my knowledge, the patient has suddenly expired during the first operation of an active cathartic, administered in the later stages.

In most of the worst cases, the circulation is extremely languid; often so much so, that the extremities have a livid appearance; and even in some of the cases that recover, the pulse cannot be discovered for hours. One prominent and recent case of this character, was that of my highly respected friend and instructor, Dr. Pierson, of Windsor.

Thoracic Symptoms.—Among the early symptoms, there is occasionally manifested a degree of morbid irritability of the respiratory organs, indicated in some cases by a troublesome irritative cough, unattended by expectoration; in others by a mucous hoarseness, or crepitus, with difficult respiration, and a slight spasmodic cough; these symptoms usually disappearing during the first or second week, though they are occasionally observed during its entire progress.

There is usually early in the disease, and continuing during the first week, a dull heavy pain in the head, accompanied with pain in the back and limbs, more particularly the legs. At the same time the *mind becomes clouded, depressed and confused*—the patient feeling indisposed to mental effort; and as the general torpor increases, becoming occasionally preovish and fitful when disturbed. This state of the mind is usually lost either in delirium or stupor, during the first or second week.

Delirium is almost universally present. Indeed I do not now recollect more than two or three cases in the whole number of patients under my care, who have not, during the course of the disease, manifested more or less of this symptom; and those cases were attended from the commencement with strong local determination to the stomach or bowels, producing constant vomiting or purging. The progress of the delirium is somewhat varied, though ordinarily it continues more or less constant, until the patient convalesces, or until it is lost in coma or death. In mild cases it is only observed for a short period after waking. Its subsidence or diminution, constitute the happiest signs of convalescence.

As the disease progresses, the sensorial functions become more confused and deranged, with more or less constant low muttering delirium, frequently difficult hearing—subultus tendium, and in some cases a troublesome and dangerous coma occurs in the later stages.

The tongue, in the mild cases, is but slightly altered in its appearance, being coated with a light brown or yellowish fur, which, at the end of the first or second week, becomes more moist, and cleaves at the edges, indicating returning health. In the more grave cases, the tongue is more heavily coated with a dark brown fur, with a dry stripe along its middle, and red at the tip and along its edges—usually at the end of the second week cleaving off suddenly, and leaving the tongue red, smooth and shining, or crossed by cracks and fissures; and with this change in the appearance of the tongue, I have never known a patient exhibit symptoms of convalescence short of one week from the time of such change, and frequently not before two or three. There is frequently connected with this change in the appearance of the tongue, a white aphthous

coating of the tongue and fauces and surface of the mouth generally—which continues for many days. At the same time, the teeth are frequently covered with a dark, thick and tenacious sordes.

Extreme thirst I have rarely met in cases of typhous fever, though there is ordinarily during the entire progress of the disease, more desire for drink than in a state of health.

Nausea and Vomiting I have rarely met in the commencement—though I can say, with Nathan Smith—they occasionally occur.

Spontaneous Diarrhea I have as rarely found as nausea and vomiting; and although I have occasionally found an obstinate diarrhea to contend with at the commencement, yet it has almost invariably been produced by the administration of drastic cathartics by the patient or by his friends. And whenever I have met with this symptom, it has been, almost without exception, in those cases where active purgatives had been taken at the commencement, and previous to calling medical aid. There is no one symptom more troublesome to the physician, or of more danger to the patient, than a *loose condition of the bowels*. Indeed I have never known, in my own practice, or in that of my professional brethren around me, a fatal case of typhous fever, when entire control was had of the bowels.

A *typhoid state of the Abdomen* usually is found in those cases attended with diarrhea, and is frequently present in those cases unattended with the same.

Abdominal pains are sometimes, though rarely, present.

Hæmorrhage from the Bowels occasionally takes place in cases of extreme malignancy, though I have never found it, except in those cases where drastic purges had been early administered.

Eruptions on the skin are not of unfrequent occurrence. And yet they have been so varied in time and appearance—in color and size—in patients under my care, that I have not been led to consider them as demanding a very careful or rigorous examination. I have usually considered them as favorable indications; excepting, of course, the petechial eruption of the later stages of the malignant cases.

During the later stages, boils frequently appear, which, if they proceed to suppuration, are favorable indications. Eruptions of serous vesicles about the mouth, usually indicate a favorable termination.

The sense of hearing, and that of vision, are frequently impaired during the progress of the disease.

There occasionally occurs an edematous enlargement of one leg and thigh, which continues for many weeks after convalescence. I have never seen it, except in cases that eventually entirely recovered.

After the subsidence of the febrile symptoms, the patient usually recovers his appetite, and regains his flesh rapidly; and frequently acquires a great size, before he regains his usual strength.

Much has been said by authors in regard to critical days—and although there seems to be in those cases where the commencement of the disease can be fixed—a disposition to change at certain periods—yet I cannot conceive the matter one of much practical importance—for in by far the greater number of cases, it is impossible to fix upon any day as the commencement—and frequently the patient will for a long time remain comparatively without change.

Anatomical Lesions.—In regard to the anatomical lesions—the condition of the vital organs after death in fatal cases of typhoid fever—I have only to say, I have no personal knowledge upon the subject, having never seen, in my own practice, but a few fatal cases, and never a post mortem examination of any of those few. I am fully of opinion that it was correctly taught by my respected instructor, Dr. Ives, that “morbid anatomy gives but very little light upon the pathology of the disease.” Other eminent medical writers declare—“that in very many cases they are unable to detect any thing decidedly morbid.”

Causes.—In looking over the opinions of medical writers, from the earliest age of medical treatises, we find among the most prominent causes of febrile disease, mentioned,—“*debility, and exhaustion of the brain and nervous system.*”

Dr. Cullen says, “The cold stage of fevers is always preceded by strong marks of a general debility prevailing in the system—all the symptoms showing that the energy of the brain

is greatly weakened, and that the excitability and increased action of the heart and arteries, following the cold stage, as he termed it, was merely the '*vis medicatrix nature*', so famous in the old schools of medicine." He also says, "It remains certain that debility lays the foundation of fever."

Armstrong, in his description of typhus, admits that the earliest symptoms are "prostration of strength, diminution of mental energy, and of sensibility—a quick, low and struggling pulse. The same author remarks, in speaking of organic lesions found upon dissection of patients dying of typhous fever,—“In many cases we are unable to detect any thing decidedly morbid—and are forced to conclude that death occurs from mere exhaustion of the vital principle.”

Now although Armstrong admits that the earliest symptoms are those of debility and exhaustion, yet he contends afterwards that in the first stage the debility is “merely apparent,” and then in the second stage, “only apparent;”—but in the third and last stage, beyond all dispute, “the debility is real.” This, in my view, is an obvious error; and one fatal alike to the patient and to the success of the practitioner.

Dr. Good, in his admirable treatise on Typhous fever, mentions, as among the most prominent symptoms, “small, weak and unequal pulse—great sensorial debility;”—and that under any “depressed state of living power, whatever be its cause, whether a want of cheerful warmth, cheerful passions, cheerful food, or cheerful and regular habits, typhus is often more likely to take place, than any other species of fever;”—and, that under a predisposition to fever, “any thing which lessens the vital energy,” confirms the previous tendency to this type of disease. In fact, the only inference which any reasonable man can draw from Good’s description, will be, that typhous fever is a disease of debility, and of exhaustion of the vital energies of the system.

Dr. Nathan Smith mentions, among the earliest symptoms, “a sense of lassitude and fatigue, disinclination to mental exertion, forgetfulness, inability to measure time, total incapacity to pursue any train of thought, or to attend to any business.”

Watson, after enumerating a great variety of causes of febrile diseases, says,—“You will remark that these are all debilitating circumstances.”

Dr. Eberle says,—“Atmospheric heat tends to predispose to fever, by the profuse and continued perspiration it causes, as well as the redundant secretion of bile it is apt to excite. By these over-excited actions of two important organs, the general system is exhausted, thus rendering it more susceptible to injurious impressions, and the exciting causes of disease.”

Dr. Robert Hooper, in treating of typhous fever, says,—“Those who have been weakened by any debilitating cause, such as poor diet, long fasting, hard labor, continued want of sleep, &c. &c. are most liable to the disease.”

Dr. Rush states,—“That general or local debility, accompanied by an increased excitability, constitutes the state of predisposition to fever.”

To oppose this doctrine, it is confidently asked, how can this be so, when the vigorous and healthy are so often penetrated by the ruthless sway of febrile epidemics? and while the feeble and valetudinarian are passed by untouched by the hand of disease?

I answer—who so likely to the exhausting, and consequent exciting influences of excessive labor and over-exertion, as the vigorous, the robust, and healthy; for while the feeble and valetudinarian, passing quietly on in the even tenor of their way, with almost entire uniformity of physical and mental effort, are rarely ever the subjects of acute disease, the farmer, the mechanic and the robust labourer, are prostrated by attacks of febrile epidemics.

Finally—there can hardly be found a medical treatise of typhous fever, in which is not mentioned, as prominent causes of the disease, most of the exciting causes of general debility and exhaustion, both physical and mental,—such as exposure to cold or heat; over-exertion of body or mind; excesses of almost every description; in fact, any and every cause which tends to lessen the vital energies of the system, and dispose it to take on deranged action.

Notwithstanding all these opinions, emphatically expressed by medical writers, they all,—with perhaps an occasional exception—recommend a strong antiphlogistic course of treatment; thus, according to their own theories, “rendering the system more susceptible to disease,” by reducing the vital

powers, and rendering the system less able to contend successfully with the diseased action.

Diagnosis.—The importance of a correct diagnosis, all will admit. This disease may appear in different degrees of severity at the same time, and in the same place; but more ordinarily, during one season, and in one locality, its prevailing character will be mild; or in another season or another locality, its character extremely grave and malignant. As I have before remarked, there is no one symptom—no two or three symptoms, which in themselves characterize the disease; and yet, notwithstanding the obscurity which sometimes attends its commencement, there are but few diseases, the diagnosis of which is more certain, under the watchful eye of a discriminating practitioner.

Prognosis.—The prognosis as well as the diagnosis, is often a difficult problem to solve—and can rarely be absolute or positive; but notwithstanding, we may, in a great majority of cases, by a careful investigation of every circumstance which can affect the result, arrive at a tolerable degree of certainty in our prognosis. The severity of the attack; the strong local determination; the appearance of the countenance; the amount of general or local exhaustion; the state of the tongue; the frequency and strength of the pulse; will prove almost unerringly, the probable result.

Contagion.—It would perhaps be considered presumption in me to advance an opinion upon the contagious or non-contagious character of this disease, when so great a proportion of the eminent medical authorities, in their elaborate treatises upon this subject, have pronounced it as decidedly contagious. I will only briefly remark, that in the whole course of my practice, I have never witnessed a single circumstance, however slight, to warrant the opinion that typhoid fever is a contagious disease.

Eberle says, "one of the most remarkable peculiarities of contagious diseases is their inherent and undeviating tendency to preserve their essential individuality, under whatever circumstances of age, sex, constitution, mode of living, climate, and place they may occur. Thus the small pox of the present day, differs in no essential circumstance, from the same disease as observed and described eight centuries ago, and the itch has

changed in nothing since the time of Galen. The rise, advancement and decline, in short the whole series of exoracial phenomena of acute contagious diseases, are governed by laws as steadfast as those which regulate the motion of the planets.

Now I consider the disease as not contagious, for the obvious reason that I have never seen two cases occurring in the same family, at or near the same time, of precisely the same character, and exhibiting the same phenomena; and because it has never, in our vicinity, commenced at a certain spot and spread as from a common centre, but almost invariably appears at different points, and among the general mass of the people, and in individuals who have had no intercourse with the sick. It is true, it is occasionally confined to some particular district, or isolated portion of a town, but even here it appears in families having no intercourse with each other, in health or in sickness; and it is not often that more than one or two cases occur in the same family at or near the same time.

Finally, I am fully of opinion, that the causes which are ordinarily considered as necessary to render typhous fever contagious, are amply sufficient to produce this form of disease, without any communication with a case of similar character.

Treatment.—In speaking of the treatment, I would do so with all due deference to the opinion of my respected medical brethren, who may differ with me in their views of its pathology and treatment, for there is probably no disease of equal frequency and importance in our country, in the treatment of which there is less uniformity than in this.

I only give you my own conclusions, resulting from a careful investigation and treatment of cases in my own practice, and observation of cases occurring in my immediate vicinity.

It is impossible, within reasonable limits, to discuss the merits of the different methods of treatment, which from time to time have been adopted, or those which are still pursued. Suffice it to say, they are, many of them, as different as light from darkness, and I confess it not a matter of surprise, that mankind should lose their confidence in medical men, when it is so well known that there is such entire discrepancy of opinion in regard to the treatment of so formidable a disease as typhous fever.

In the treatise of Robert Hooper, we find the general char-

acter of the treatment of most medical authors who have written upon this subject. He mentions as among the most "likely means" of "effecting a cure," "antimonials until full vomiting is excited," "active cathartics to clear out the bowels, and to keep up this function through the entire course of the disease." "The preparations of mercury, assisted by saline compounds," he considers as all important, and not satisfied with them, he recommends the "abstraction of blood," with a "general antiphlogistic regimen."

Now if consistency be indeed a jewel, such jewels are "like angels' visits, few and far between," in most of the popular treatises on typhoid diseases; for what greater inconsistency can be found on record than that between the pathology, causes and treatment of this disease, among medical writers. All admit as among the most prominent symptoms, debility and exhaustion of the vital energies, and yet all, with here and there an exception, emphatically recommend a free anti-phlogistic course of treatment.

Blood-letting, although strongly recommended by many, I cannot but consider as in every respect, contra-indicated, and it is, in my view, wholly inadmissible.

The use of emetics and cathartics, though there may be cases where they are found useful, as temporary auxiliaries, I consider as rarely ever necessary; oftener producing bad effects than good, by destroying the tone of the stomach and bowels, and thus predisposing to troublesome diarrhea in the later stages. Indeed I have rarely ever found diarrhea attending typhoid fever, except in those cases where cathartics had been tampered with at the onset.

I believe almost every case may be considered as safe while there is no evacuation from the bowels, for I have never known a fatal termination when entire control was had over the bowels during the progress of the disease.

What possible good, I ask, can arise from evacuations from the bowels, while those organs are apparently free from the diseased action, and when it is so obviously important to retain control over that function?

If the pathology and symptoms of this disease, as here laid down, are correct, the only common sense and rational mode of treatment, seems fully apparent:—to sustain, and if possi-

ble, increase the enfeebled powers of the system,—to equalize the circulation,—to allay the morbid irritability and irritation when it exists, and by a prompt, regular and uniform support, to enable the system to re-act, and to throw off the diseased action. To the emphatic direction of Dr. Good, I firmly believe I have been more indebted for my success in the treatment of this disease, than to all or any of the elaborate treatises ever written on this subject, viz. "It should never be forgotten that the disease in every stage and variety, is one of sensorial debility, leading on to putrescency; and that our only hope of cure depends on economizing the nervous power that remains,—supporting it as far as we are able without further loss, and opposing the natural tendency of the disease, by such tonics as the system will best bear," "On this account," he says, "whatever tends to weaken the animal frame generally, or any one of its functions particularly, must, as a common rule, be carefully abstained from; and hence, severe evacuation by bleeding or purging, are among the foremost objects of prohibition." I am aware that the use of tonics, except in the later stages, is objected to, and yet, notwithstanding these objections, I have every reason to believe that their early and prompt administration increases, tenfold, the chances of recovery.

A few words in regard to the possibility of interrupting or cutting short its progress. I am clearly of opinion that in many cases to which I have been called, and which would have proved decided and strongly marked cases of typhus, if left for the feeble powers of the system to contend with alone, prompt and decided medication has proved successful in interrupting its progress, and effecting a resolution and a restoration to health, within the first two or three days. I admit, that at the time a physician is ordinarily called, it is impossible to accomplish this; but during the early stage of the attack, while the patient is cold, feeble and languid, a prompt and efficient medication, such as the symptoms demand, will often cut short the disease, and result in a rapid restoration to health.

In many cases, the attack is mild—the symptoms not urgent, and almost any article of medicine which produces a strong impression upon the system, may break up the disease in its incipient state; and this fact, I have no doubt, leads often to the

rash and desultory course of the careless practitioner. But ought we to be satisfied with merely making a strong impression at hazard, without regard to the peculiarities of constitution—the severity or mildness of the attack, or the character of the prevailing epidemic? Ought we not rather to adopt some general principle of treatment, which would meet alike the mild and the grave cases, for although the indications in one case, are far more imperative than the other, yet our principles of treatment ought, and to ensure success, must be, one and the same.

In the low and exhausted cases, there is one indication only, and that imperative; to excite and support the powers of life, waiving every other consideration.

I have every reason to suppose, that in many cases of this character, that have come to my knowledge, a fatal mistake has been made by a careless and hasty investigation, and that in many of them a single venesection,—an antimonial emetic or an active cathartic, has ensued to the case a rapid and fatal termination.

The importance of early medication, will be apparent to all, and it is to be much regretted, that many cases do occur where medical aid is not called sufficiently early to arrest the progress of disease; and it is still more deeply to be lamented that in a large number of cases, we find that the patient has been for days, so injudiciously tampering with medicine, as to disconcert every rational plan of management.

To accomplish the main indications mentioned, there is no one article of the materia medica, more safe—more efficient, or more indispensable than *opium*. In the early stages of the disease, to allay the morbid irritability and irritation, and as the “king of stimulus,” it has its important place; but in the later stages of grave cases, its peculiar and happy effects are more apparent. The febrile irritation—the restlessness—the anxiety, wakefulness, subsults and tremors, epigastric sinking and diarrhoea, are by its use controlled. The coma, occasionally occurring in severe cases, is more easily overcome by opium, at short and regular intervals, than by any other remedy. No good can be obtained by an unsteady and irregular use of this article, for it is only by a uniform and regular ad-

ministration, in efficient doses, repeated at short and regular intervals, that its good effects are seen.

During the early stages, the regular and uniform use of simple aromatic bitter tonics, acrid stimuli, and diaphoretic drinks, such as serpentaria, chamomile, columbo, galangal, capsicum and lytta, and such others as belong to a moderate tonic and diaphoretic regimen, are of the utmost importance. The capsicum, in infusion, of all those named, seems to produce more favorable results than all the others, alone or combined. The thirst of the early stages, is by its use relieved; the dry and darkly coated tongue becomes moist under its influence; the torpid and inactive condition of the mucous membrane of the whole alimentary canal,—the cold and livid extremities,—the epigastric sinking, are all disposed to yield to its free and uniform use.

The tonic power, however, of any or all of these, is but feeble, and although they may, and often do, accomplish all that is desired, in mild cases, yet in grave cases, there is no one article of the materia medica of equal importance as a tonic, as Bark. In the form of decoction, combined with galangal, it has been my chief dependence during the entire course of the disease. I am aware that some substitute the sulphate of quinine, for the bark itself, but after a long trial of it, I find myself wholly unable to depend upon it as a tonic, in febrile diseases.

Diffusible stimuli, such as carbonate of ammonia, and camphor, I have found highly serviceable, as equalizing the excitement—determining to the surface—calming the low delirium, and acting as a steady, permanent cerebral.

Alcoholic stimulus, in such quantities as the symptoms demand, indicated by the degree of exhaustion, epigastric sinking, state of the pulse, and general appearances of flagging of the vital process, is appropriate and indispensable, in a great majority of cases; indeed, in many of the grave cases, the free use of alcoholic stimulus, is the only means of sustaining the patient, and carrying him safely through the disease.

The mineral acids are not only extremely grateful to the patient, but important as mild, supporting remedies.

Blisters, especially in grave cases, are useful auxiliaries, as

counter irritants, and as proving valuable stimuli to the nervous system.

Cataplasms, applied to the feet and limbs, in every case where there is unequal excitement, and strong local determination, are important.

In those cases attended with diarrhea, or with hæmorrhage, the free use of astringents, combined with the tonics, such as nut-gall, or white oak bark in infusion, the infusion of *cornus castanea*, sulphate of zinc, or acetate of lead, are useful and important.

For the tympanic state of the bowels, so often attending, I have used the nitrate of silver, with the happiest effects.

Constant attention should be paid to the ventilation of the room occupied by the patient. Nothing is more grateful, and nothing adds more to his prospect of recovery, than a free circulation of fresh air through his room, and whether it be summer or winter, cold or hot, day or night, the room should be abundantly supplied with pure, fresh air.

Equally important, almost, with the medication, is the system of diet of the patient. The steady and regular use of such nutritious and supporting diet as the stomach will bear, is essentially necessary and indeed indispensable. During the early stages of the disease, gelatinous and mucilaginous preparations are to be preferred. During the later stages, and particularly in the grave forms of disease, animal foods are by far the best, as affording the best means of supporting the patient. In some severe and lengthy cases, I have directed the free use of chicken, mutton and beef broths, through the entire course of the disease, and with the happiest effects.

Typhoid Pneumonia.—In relation to that form of this disease called typhoid pneumonia, which prevails with us more or less extensively every year, and which is so often treated as a highly inflammatory disease, I would only briefly remark, I have never bled a case, and have never lost a case. My treatment has uniformly been a prompt and persevering course of opiates, acrid stimuli, mild tonics, expectorants and diaphoretics. Upon opium, sanguinaria, acetæ, arum, capicum, lytta, galangal and blisters, I have mainly relied.

In conclusion, I would remark, notwithstanding all that has been said, in regard to the general principles of the treatment

of typhous fever, I do not pretend that cases never occur in which evacuations are not necessary or indispensable, but that they are ever necessary to reduce the system, or that they ever, by their counteracting agency, overbalance their reducing effects, I do not believe.

I have thus briefly given you my views of the pathology and treatment of typhous fever, honestly I know, and modestly I hope,—views adopted from fourteen years experience, in a section of country where this disease has occurred in every year of my practice, and with painful frequency;—views adapted and confirmed by the success which with the aid of an over-ruling, all-wise Providence, has ever attended my efforts and application of those principles to the treatment of the disease under consideration; and disclaiming any intention of boasting, I wish to say of the result of the application of these principles, that during the whole course of my practice, I have lost but two cases of typhous fever, both of which were brought home from out of town, several days succeeding the attack, and one of them after having been greatly reduced by the repeated use of Brandreth's pills, and Epsom salts.

From the simple notes of my respected friend, Dr. Elijah F. Reed, of East Windsor, which he has kindly permitted me to examine, (and whose general treatment coincides, I believe, fully with my own,) I find the number of cases of typhous fever, under his care from March, 1816, to February, 1837, (twenty-one years,) upwards of 500. Of this number, sixteen only proved fatal, two of these from a relapse, occasioned by impudence; three had taken drastic cathartics, for a week previous to calling medical aid, and two were from seventy-five to eighty years of age. Of these sixteen cases, but two had hemorrhage from the bowels, and one of them heavily purged during the first week of his sickness, and the other suffering from a heavy mercurial pyalism.

In conversation recently with my respected friend and instructor, Dr. Paxon, of Windsor, I was authorized by him to say, in regard to the results of his management of typhous fever, for the last thirty-five years, that the probable number of cases of this disease under his care as physician and counsellor, had been from 1600 to 2000, and that of these, including the mild and grave cases, not more than one per cent. had proved

fatal; and that these, with hardly an exception, were those in which cathartics and other reducing agents had been tampered with, either at the commencement or during the progress of the disease.

A vast number of these cases have occurred under my own observation, as a student of Dr. Pierson, and from my youth, as a neighbor; and I know very many of them to have been of the most malignant type.

I ought perhaps to add, that Dr. Pierson's general course of practice coincides fully with the views which are here expressed.

Now that this testimony, resulting from a practice covering probably, a greater extent of territory than that of any physician in the state, and including a greater number of cases, than have fallen under the care of any physician now living in Hartford county, is of great value, none will deny.

Now although I may be accused of leniency, indiscriminate stimulation and mal-practice, I only ask that my views may not be distorted,—my practice or my success misrepresented,—or my honesty and candor doubted. Judge of me, and of these principles of practice, by the results of their application, and I am satisfied.

Finally, the great art in the treatment of this, as well as of all other diseases, seems evidently and clearly to be, to carry out the all-important direction so often and so emphatically laid down by one of the justly esteemed fathers of the New Haven Medical School—to “*prescribe for the symptoms.*”

This is indeed the golden rule of medical practice, and the great secret of all successful medication.

Every case should be its own interpreter; and the man who enters upon the responsible duties of the medical profession, with prejudiced views in relation to the pathology or treatment of any particular form of disease, and who shall depend upon prescribing for the name of a disease, has a great share of his profession yet to learn; and cannot be a safe or successful physician.

PROCEEDINGS

AT THE

ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

CONNECTICUT MEDICAL SOCIETY,

MAY, 1847.

TOGETHER WITH

A LIST OF MEMBERS, AND THE ANNUAL ADDRESS.

HARTFORD:

PRESS OF CASE, TIFFANY & BURNHAM,

1847.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

ARCHIBALD WELCH, M. D., President.
GEORGE SUMNER, M. D., Vice President.
V. M. DOW, M. D., Treasurer.
GURDON W. RUSSELL, M. D., Secretary.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Committee of Examination.

ARCHIBALD WELCH, M. D., *ex officio*.
GEORGE SUMNER, M. D.
J. G. BECKWITH, M. D.
H. A. GRANT, M. D.
EARL SWIFT, M. D.
WILLIAM WITTER, M. D.

Committee to nominate Physicians to the Retreat for the Insane.

SAMUEL BEACH, M. D.
DAVID S. DODGE, M. D.
JOHNSON C. HATCH, M. D.
E. M. WOODDUFF, M. D.
STUGES BULKLEY, M. D.

Committee to nominate Professors in the Medical Institution of Yale College.

ASHBEL WOODWARD, M. D.
E. K. HUNT, M. D.
GEORGE BLACKMAN, M. D.
N. F. IVES, M. D.
G. B. HAWLEY, M. D.

*At the Annual Convention of the President and Fellows
of the Connecticut Medical Society, held in Gilman's
Hall, in Hartford, May 12, 1847 :*

Certificates of the election of Fellows, from the several
Counties, were presented, as follows :

HARTFORD COUNTY.

H. A. Grant, M. D.
William Scott, M. D.
Samuel Hart, M. D.
Samuel B. Benson, M. D.
Sidney Rockwell, M. D.

NEW HAVEN COUNTY.

Eli Ives, M. D.
G. O. Sumner, M. D.
*C. S. Thompson, M. D.
D. A. Tyler, M. D.
Alvan Talcott, M. D.

NEW LONDON COUNTY.

Chauncey Burgess, M. D.
Ashbel Woodward, M. D.
R. W. Mathewson, M. D.
*John D. Ford, M. D.
E. B. Downing, M. D.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY.

Sturges Bulkley, M. D.
A. L. Williams, M. D.
H. N. Bennett, M. D.
*Stephen Middlebrook, M. D.
*George Dyer, M. D.

WINDHAM COUNTY.

William Witter, M. D.
Daniel A. Hovey, M. D.
Daniel E. Hall, M. D.
Hiram Holt, M. D.
Lorenzo Marcey, M. D.

LITCHFIELD COUNTY.

Benjamin Welch, Jr., M. D.
Loomis North, M. D.
Sidney H. Lyman, M. D.
David E. Bostwick, M. D.
A. M. Huxley, M. D.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY.

Elisha B. Nye, M. D.
Asa H. King, M. D.
Wm. H. Tremaine, M. D.

TOLLAND COUNTY.

John H. Manning, M. D.
William N. Clarke.
Allen Skinner, M. D.

The reading of the Dissertation, was, on motion, postponed
until one o'clock.

Dr. Burgess offered the following resolution from the Fellows of New London County.

Resolved, That the subject of selling secret or patent medicines, be referred to a committee of one from a county, who shall, as early as convenient, make a report to this Convention, of the best method, in their opinion, to be had in the premises.

The resolution was passed, and the committee consisted of Drs. Burgess, Hart, Talcott, Marcey, Bellkley, Lyman, Nye and Clarke.

The Secretary presented resolutions from New London County, on the same subject, which were referred to the same committee.

On motion of Dr. B. Welch, jr.,

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed, to obtain such alteration in the Act of Incorporation of the Medical Society, that the County meetings may be held at such time as they shall severally appoint.

Dr. Beresford presented resolutions from Hartford County on the same subject.

The resolution was adopted, and Drs. Grant, B. Welch, jr. and G. O. Sumner, were appointed the Committee.

On motion of Dr. Witter,

Resolved, That a Committee of one from a County be appointed, to confer on the subject of candidates recommended by the several Counties, for the gratuitous course of lectures in New Haven, the ensuing term.

Passed, and Drs. Witter, Rockwell, Thompson, Woodward, Williams, Huxley, Tremaine and Manning, were appointed.

On motion of Dr. G. O. Sumner, a Committee consisting of Drs. Hovey, Tyler, Bostwick and Russell, were appointed on the Election of Fellows; and the same gentlemen were also appointed a Committee on Debentures.

They reported, that the List of Fellows, as presented, was correct, and subsequently reported a Debenture Bill, which was accepted.

The Treasurer made his Report, which was referred to Drs. Scott, Hall and Bennett, to audit. They reported it to be correct.

Abstract of the Treasurer's Report.

Due from Clerks, supposed to be good,		8993.43
Due to the Treasurer,	\$24.47	
Outstanding Debentures,	416.75	
Average Abolitions, 13 per cent.	129.14	
Commission on collections,	43.22	613.58
Balance in favor of the Society,		\$379.85

The Committee on candidates for the gratuitous course of Lectures, reported that the following gentlemen were recommended by the several counties,

<i>Hartford County,</i>	George S. Green,
<i>New Haven "</i>	William L. Bliss,
<i>New London "</i>	Benjamin F. Bradford,
<i>Fairfield "</i>	Manson A. Shepard,
<i>Windham "</i>	Eleazer P. Kies,
<i>Litchfield "</i>	Marcus DeForest, jr.
<i>Middlesex "</i>	Samuel B. Catlin,
<i>Tolland "</i>	Melancthon Serry,

Resolved, That a Committee of one from a County be appointed on Honorary Degrees, and Honorary Membership, and also for dissolving the connexion of members with the Medical Society.

Des. Ives, Beresford, Downing, Hall, Middlebrook, B. Welch, jr., King and Skinner were appointed.

Des. Mathewson, Tyler and North, were appointed a Committee to nominate a Dissertator for the next Convention.

The rule deferring the ordinary business of the Convention until the second day of the session, was, an motion of Dr. Bennett, suspended, and it was ordered that the choice of officers be made the first business at the commencement of the afternoon session.

A Dissertation was then read by E. K. Hunt, M. D.—On the Importance of a Medical Organization, and the advantages resulting from it.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Convention be tendered to Dr. Hunt, for his Dissertation just read, and that a copy be

requested for publication, with the proceedings of the Convention.

Adjourned until half past four o'clock.

HALF PAST FOUR, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment, and the following officers were chosen for the year ensuing :

ARCHIBALD WELCH, M. D., *President*.

GEORGE SUMNER, M. D., *Vice President*.

V. M. DOW, M. D., *Treasurer*.

GURDON W. RUSSELL, M. D., *Secretary*.

The Report of the Committee of Examination was read, accepted, and ordered to be placed on file.

Dr. George Sumner, and Eli Ives, delegates to the National Medical Convention, made a statement of its proceedings, and the following resolution, offered by Dr. Grant, was passed.

Resolved, That before any person can be admitted into the office of a Physician, as a Student of Medicine, he shall furnish evidence of good moral character, and shall be examined by the preceptor and one of the Fellows of this Society : the examination to be upon the subjects of English education, and Greek and Latin languages. If found qualified, he is to receive a certificate to that effect, and be enrolled as a regular student of medicine.

The Committee of Examination was then chosen, and the following resolution, submitted by Dr. George Sumner, was passed.

Resolved, That but two persons be elected on each of the Standing Committees each year; the first two on the list to be dropped, and the two chosen to be placed at the bottom; but any person may be re-elected.

The Convention then made choice of the Committee to nominate Physician to the Retreat for the Insane, and adjourned until half past eight o'clock, to-morrow morning.

Thursday, May 13th.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment, and the Committee to nominate Professors in the Medical Institution of Yale College, were then chosen.

The Committee on Honorary Degrees, &c., reported, and the Convention recommended the following gentlemen to the President and Fellows of Yale College, as candidates for the Honorary Degree of Doctor in Medicine, viz: Daniel A. Hovey, of Killingly; Joel Canfield, of Guilford, and Orin C. White, of Hebron.

Amos Twitchell, M. D., of Keene, N. H., Charles A. Lee, M. D., of New York, and David S. C. H. Smith, M. D., of Sutton, Mass., were chosen Honorary Members.

The Committee requested to be discharged from the consideration of the latter part of the resolution, and they were discharged.

The Committee appointed to nominate a Dissertator for the next Convention, reported the name of B. Fordyce Barker, M. D., of Norwich, and he was chosen.

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of secret or patent medicines, made a report, with an accompanying resolution. The report was accepted, and the resolution laid upon the table.

The following resolutions were then adopted:

Resolved, That the Medical Societies of each County, be requested to appoint one or more delegates to attend the next meeting of the *American Medical Association*, which is to be held in Baltimore, on the first Wednesday of May, 1848.

Resolved, That a memorial be presented to the Legislature of the State, relative to the registration of births and deaths, within its limits, and that Drs. Sumner, Beresford and Barry, be a committee to present the same on behalf of this Society.

Resolved, That a tax of one dollar and fifty cents be laid on each member of this Society, for the year ensuing, to be collectible on and after the first day of June next.

There being no further business, the Convention

Adjourned, *sine die*.

Attest,

GRAND W. RUSSELL, *Secretary*.

MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

*FELIX PASCALIS,	New York.
JAMES JACKSON,	Boston, Mass.
JOHN C. WARREN,	" "
*SAMUEL L. MITCHELL,	New York.
*DAVID HOSACK,	" "
*WRIGHT POST,	" "
BENJAMIN KILLMAN,	New Haven.
*GEORGE MCLELLAN,	Philadelphia, Pa.
*JOHN MACIE,	Providence, R. I.
*CHARLES ELDERIDGE,	East Greenwich, R. I.
THEODORE BOMEYN BECK,	Albany, N. Y.
*JAMES TEACHER,	Plymouth, Mass.
EDWARD DELAFIELD,	New York.
JOHN DELAMATER,	Cleveland, Ohio.
*WILLIAM P. DEWEES,	Philadelphia, Pa.
*JOSEPH WHITE,	Cherry Valley, N. Y.
JACOB BUCKLEY,	Boston, Mass.
WALTER CHANNING,	" "
*PHILIP SYNG PHYSICK,	Philadelphia, Pa.
*LEWIS BREHMANN,	U. S. Navy.
DANIEL DRAKE,	Cincinnati, Ohio.
*HENRY MITCHELL,	Norwich, N. Y.
NATHAN RUNO SMITH,	Baltimore, Md.
VALENTINE MOTT,	New York.
*SAMUEL WHITE,	Hudson, N. Y.
REUBEN D. MUSSEY,	Cincinnati, Ohio.
WILLIAM TULLY,	New Haven.
RICHMOND BROWNELL,	Providence, R. I.
WILLIAM BEAUMONT,	U. S. Army.
SAMUEL HENRY DICKSON,	Charleston, S. C.
SAMUEL B. WOODWARD,	Northampton, Mass.
JOHN STEARNS,	New York.
STEPHEN W. WILLIAMS,	Dorchester, Mass.
*HENRY GREEN,	Albany, N. Y.
*GEORGE FROST,	Springfield, Mass.
WILLARD PARKER,	New York.
BENJAMIN TICKNOR,	U. S. Navy.
ALDEN MARCH,	Albany, N. Y.
AMOS TWITCHELL,	Kenneb, N. H.
CHARLES A. LEE,	New York.
DAVID S. C. H. SMITH,	Sutton, Mass.

ORDINARY MEMBERS.

The names of those Members who are exempt from taxation by age, are in Italics; the names of those who have been Presidents of the Society, are in capitals.

HARTFORD COUNTY.

BENJAMIN ROGERS, M. D., Chairman.

E. K. Hunt, M. D., Clerk.

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| <p>HARTFORD, <i>SILAS FULLER</i>, George Sumner, D. S. Dodge, Henry Holmes, Samuel H. Woodford, George B. Hawley, Gordon W. Russell, David Cady, P. W. Ellsworth, Benjamin Rogers, E. K. Hunt, John S. Butler, H. A. Grant, Wm. J. Barry, H. C. Preston.</p> <p>West Hartford, Edward Bruce Ayres, Alfred Kellogg.</p> <p>Berlin, Hiram C. Cutler, Sylvester Bulley, E. Pringle, Jr.</p> <p>New Britain, Samuel Hunt, Lewis Woodruff, E. D. Babcock.</p> <p>Blomfield, John P. Wells.</p> <p>Barnum, Jared W. Fitch, Joseph W. Cady.</p> <p>East Granby, William Edm. St. Jeremiah Bernal.</p> <p>Canaan, Rev. Josiah Keweenaw, Thomas G. Hixon.</p> <p>Colchester, Samuel W. Brown, Russell B. Tilling.</p> <p>East Hartford, Eli Hall, Seth L. Child.</p> <p>East Windsor, Elijah P. Reed, Horace C. Gilman.</p> <p>Scituate, Brian Watson.</p> <p>East Brook, Marcus L. Park.</p> <p>Wasson Pond, Joseph Child.</p> | <p>Enfield, J. P. Converse, A. L. Spalding.</p> <p>Farmington, Josiah Thompson, E. W. Clurington, Henry Brown.</p> <p>Plainville, G. A. Moody.</p> <p>Glastonbury, Ralph Carter.</p> <p>South Granby, Samuel Hawley, Lemuel J. Andrews.</p> <p>Eastbury, John Stirling.</p> <p>Granby, James Lee, Joseph Y. Jewell.</p> <p>North Granby, Josiah C. Seering.</p> <p>East Granby, Chester Hamlin.</p> <p>West Granby, James D. Wilson.</p> <p>Manchester, William C. Williams, William Scott.</p> <p>Rocky Hill, Josiah W. Barrows.</p> <p>Southbury, Richard A. Webb.</p> <p>Troyville, Rev. W. Sanford, Charles W. Hoag.</p> <p>Seymour, James S. Bates, Frederick A. Hart.</p> <p>South Windsor, Sidney Rockwell.</p> <p>Seymour, Asaph L. Smith, Samuel B. Lee, Arthur Ewing.</p> <p>Weymouth, ARCHAELD WELCH, E. F. Cook.</p> <p>Windsor, William S. Foster, Theodore St. Graham Lee.</p> <p>Windsor Locks, Samuel W. Skinner.</p> |
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NEW HAVEN COUNTY.

LYMAN PARKER, M. D., Chairman.

D. L. DAGGETT, M. D., Clerk.

NEW HAVEN, John Almyer, Ed. Free,
T. F. Beers, Jonathan Knight, Sam-
uel Ponderson, V. M. Dow, A. S.
Mason, Charles Hooker, H. B. Par-
ter, Nathan E. Ives, E. M. Bishop,
D. H. Moore, E. D. North, J. A. Tot-
ten, P. T. Miller, L. A. Thomas,
Levi Ives, Ping A. Jewett, J. T.
Hutchins, L. D. Wilcoxson, D. L.
Daggett, George O. Skinner, H. A.
Tyler, Henry Brunsen, David Freck-
and, J. W. Hubbell, R. W. Forbes,
E. A. Park, N. W. Taylor, Jr., Jas
O'Reilly, T. R. Beers, Jr.,
Westville, Samuel Lloyd.
Fair Haven, C. S. Thompson, J. H.
Beethley, W. M. White.
BETHANY, Am C. Woodward.
BRANFORD, Willoughby L. Lay.
CHESHAM, A. J. Duggs, Nehemiah
Ricks.
DURRY, W. J. Whiting.
JENNIA, Samuel P. Church.
EASTINGHAM, Andrew Beardsley.
MONTPELIER, William Stoddard.
Sheldon C. Johnson, Joshua Kniffell.
Thomas Stoddard.
EAST HAVEN, Elio Furber.

GREATER, Joel Caulfield, Eliza Hatch-
inson, Alvan Talbot.
MADISON, Reynold Webb.
North Madison, George E. Perkins.
MERRIMAN, Gardiner Barlow.
West Meriden, D. H. Collins.
Yolville, C. B. McCarty.
MIDDLETOWN, Jacob Lindsey, W. C.
Collins.
MILFORD, Andrew French, Hall Allen,
L. N. Beardsley.
NATHANUCK, J. D. Mears, Timothy
Langdon.
NORTH BRANFORD, Sheldon Beardsley.
NORTH HAVEN, Aaron Moody, C. R.
Frost.
OXFORD, Nick Stone, John Lonsbury.
SOUTHBRIDGE, A. B. Bennett.
South Britain, N. C. Baldwin.
WALLINGFORD, Lydia Parker, Wm.
Brewster.
WATERBURY, Joseph Foster, Daniel
Foster, Jr., M. C. Loomisworth, G.
L. Fish, W. W. Holmes, A. N. Hall.
WATERBURY, Isaac Goodsell, Andrew
Castle.
WINDSOR, Henry Byington.

NEW LONDON COUNTY.

AVERY DOWNER, M. D., Chairman.

JEREMIAH KINN, M. D., Clerk.

NEW LONDON, Archibald Minter, Dyer
T. Burdard, Nathaniel S. Perkins,
James Morgan, Isaac G. Foster, Wm.
W. Miner, Charles E. Ames, James
Boggs, Seth Smith.
NORWICH, Richard P. Tracy, Warring-
ton Hooker, Chambers Burgess, Eli-
jah Dyer, Jr., Eliza Plimsey, Ben-
jamin T. Koch, Jonathan W. Trickett,
R. F. Barker, Abner B. Hale, John
D. Ford, Robert A. Manswring, Jer-
emiah King.
BOZAR, Samuel Johnson.
CONVENT, Ezekiel W. Parsons,
Frederick Morgan, James S. Dow.
EAST LEBAN, John L. Smith, Austin F.
Perkins.
FRANKLIN, Abner Woodward.
GROSVENOR,
Jewett City, Loren Tyler, Almon Fal-
lot.
GROTON, Joseph Duffee.
PORTLAND, John D. Myer, Benjamin
F. Stoddard, Eliza F. Coats.

LEBANON, Joseph Conant, Erasmus
Osgood, Richard P. Green.
LEICESTER,
Giles Perry, R. H. Loomis, Rufus W.
Mathewson.
LITTON, Vase Smith, ——— Brewer.
LITCH, Richard Noyes, John Noyes,
Shubert P. Bartlett.
HARTFORD, John C. M. Beckwith.
POTSDAM, Feltus, Wm. W. J. Warren.
MONTVILLE, Ephraim Fellows.
UNIONVILLE, Jedediah K. Gay, John C.
Tullis.
NORTH BRANFORD, Thomas P. Wal-
ton, Alvin Gray.
PACIFIC, Jerry Downer, Elmer B.
Bowling.
POPESTON, H. W. Coats.
SALEM, John P. Teller, William A.
Hubbard.
STONINGTON, Wm. New Robertson, Wm.
Hyde, George E. Palmer, Wm. Hyde,
Jr., Cyrus Miner, Edwin Bentley.
MYSTIC, Macon Manning.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY.

DANIEL COMSTOCK, M. D., Chairman.

SAMUEL BEACH, M. D., Clerk.

FAIRFIELD, Jeremiah T. Deane, S. P. V. R. Tax Inspector.	NEW CANAAN, Samuel S. Noyes, Lewis Richards.
GREENFIELD, Rufus Hickman.	NEWTON, Cyrus H. Booth, E. Inman, George Judson, Thomas Dutton.
HAVERPORT, James Sherwood.	NEWWATER, John A. M'Lean, E. Good, Ira Gingspy.
HAMMONT, Samuel Beach, D. H. Nash, William L. Wilson, Frederick Judson, — Knapp, — Burritt.	RAZMOW, Charles Gosham.
BROOKFIELD, Noah A. Lacey, A. L. Williams.	SEABROOK, Chas. W. Ayres, M. D. Haight, Robert Lockwood.
DANFORTH, Daniel Comstock, E. R. Barker, E. P. Bennett.	STRATFORD, Wm. T. Shilton, John Gooding.
GUTHRIE, H. N. Bennett.	TRUMBULL, ELIJAH MIDDLEBURY, Stephen Middlebury, George Dyer, E. B. Middlebrook.
DARTON, Warren Forester.	WATERBURY, George Elashman, J. Janssen.
EASTON, Lloyd Neely, James Baldwin.	WILSON, Sylvester Head.
HUNTINGTON, James H. Norton.	
MORRIS, George Bailey, Salmon R. Hall.	

WINDHAM COUNTY.

WILLIAM WITTER, M. D., Chairman.

JAMES E. WHITCOMB, M. D., Clerk.

BROOKLYN, James E. Whitcomb, Daniel M. Hale, Wm. Woodbridge.	PLAINFIELD Central P. O., Elijah Baldwin, Jr.
ANDOVER, John H. Simmons.	PORTMAN, Hiram Hill, Lewis Williams.
EASTFORD, Endrick Stebbins.	SPRING, Nathan S. Fife.
CANTERBURY, Eliza Baldwin, Joseph Palmer.	WILLIAMSBURG, Henry W. Bough.
CHARLES, Owen Witter.	THORNTON, Samuel Brown.
HAMPTON, Ozer Hughes.	VALTOWN, Harvey Campbell.
KILLBUCK, Justin Hamstead.	WINDHAM, Chester Hunt.
NORTH WINDHAM, Frank H. Pickham.	WILMINGTON, William Witter, John Hall, Jr.
SOUTH WINDHAM, Daniel A. Hovey.	WESTFORD, Calvin B. Donley.
WEST WINDHAM, David E. Hall, Samuel Harkins.	WINDHAM, North, Ann Water.
PLAINFIELD, Morys Burgess, William H. Cogswell, Prosper K. Hutchinson, Wm. H. Campbell.	SOUTH WINDHAM, Lorenz Macey.
	WEST WINDHAM, Elmer Litchfield, Milton Bradford.

LITCHFIELD COUNTY.

A. M. HUXLEY, M. D., Chairman.

J. G. BARKWITH, M. D., Clerk.

LEITCHFIELD, WM. HICK, Samuel	NEW MILFORD, Abiel Hillsoms, Wm.
BLAIR, J. G. Beckwith, R. M. Wash-	R. Lacy, George O. Taylor.
ELL, George Seymour.	NORFOLK, Benjamin Welch, Wm. H.
SOUTH FARM, Gary H. Miner, David	Welch, W. Cockin.
E. Burdick.	PLYMOUTH, Samuel T. Salisbury.
NORTHFIELD, R. S. Woodward.	Plymouth Station, Wm. Woodruff.
BARHAMSTON, F. R. Graham.	ROBERT, Myron Downie.
BETHLEHEM, Loomis North.	SALISBURY, O. French, W. E. Tink-
BROOKFIELD, Horace Jackson.	ley.
CANAN, Albert A. Wright, George	PERRYVILLE, Benjamin Welch, Jr.
Adam.	SHARON, Ralph Denning, Chas. W.
SOUTH CANAN, John A. Gillett.	Reed.
CONVENT, David B. North.	WILLOUGHBY, Ernest Bancroft, O. E.
WEST CONVENT, Samuel W. Gold, John	Freeman.
Scovell.	WILKINSON, Norman Lyman.
COLUMBIAN.	WINDSOR, Maudy Tuttle.
GAYLORD'S BRIDGE, Gamaliel H. St.	WASHINGTON, R. M. Fowler, Seth F.
John.	Ford.
GROTON, A. M. Huxley.	Wm. Preston, Sidney H. Lyman, Ed-
NORTH GROTON, Horace K. Brook.	ward P. Lyman.
HARTINGTON, E. J. Woodward.	WINDHAM, James Welch.
KENT, Wells Bradford, Jackson C.	WOODBURY, Abigail Almeroth, Chas.
Beck, Elsie O'Brien.	H. Webb, Thomas T. Seeley.
NEW HARTINGTON, Alvin, Hymn T.	TRYPHLE, Charles Byington.
Mohr.	

MIDDLESEX COUNTY.

IRA HUTCHINSON, M. D., Chairman.

HAMILTON BRADEN, M. D., Clerk.

MIDDLEBURY, Richard Warner, Joseph	EAST HAMMAM, Asa M. Holt, Datus
Barrett, Thomas Miner, Charles	Williams, Eliza R. Nye.
Woodward, Wm. B. Casey, David	HAMMAM, Ira Hutchinson.
HARRIS, Hamilton Brewer, Frank-	HIGGANS, Wm. H. Thumaine.
lin Woodruff.	KILLINGWORTH, Rufus Turner.
CRATHAM, Charles Smith, Francis G.	FOULAND, George O. Jarvis, Stephen
Edgerton.	A. Fuller, G. C. H. Gilbert.
MIDDLE HADDAM, Albert B. Worthing-	SAYBROOK, Asa H. King.
ton.	KEAR, Almon H. Hough, Frederick
CHILDER, Ambrose Pratt.	W. Shepard.
DYRHAM, Benjamin F. Fowler.	DEEP RIVER, Rufus Baker.
	WARRIMOOK, Horace Burr.

TOLLAND COUNTY.

ORSON WOOD, M. D., Chairman.

O. K. IRAM, M. D., Clerk.

TOLLAND, ODDIE K. IRAM, Gilbert H. Prouty.	MANSFIELD, North, Norman Brigham, Wm. H. Richardson.
ANDOVER, Adolphus White.	South Mansfield, Earl Keiff.
BALTON, CYRIL Hunt, Charles F. Smyth.	SOMERS, Orson Wood, Erasmus E. Hamilton, Wm. E. Woods.
COLLINGS, Harrison Melchior.	STAFFORD, East, William N. Clark.
COUNTRY, North, Elmore Hunt.	Atijah Ladd, Elmore S. Beale.
South Country, Timothy Devock.	Stafford, West, Joshua C. Klugst.
FRAMINGTON, Allen Hyde, J. H. Hall, Edg.	Union, Elmore Lindsay.
HERRIN, JOHN S. PETERS, Orin C. White, Jacob G. Louren.	VERMONT, Scottsburg Hawley, Alden Salmon.
	WILLINGTON, Francis L. Dickinson.

SUMMARY OF ORDINARY MEMBERS.

	Taxable	Not Taxable	Total
Hartford County,	28	5	72
New Haven County,	22	3	39
New London County,	22	3	39
Fairfield County,	10	4	14
Litchfield County,	12	6	32
Windsor County,	31	12	38
Middlesex County,	27	6	27
Colchester County,	20	3	27
Total,	228	41	289

DUTIES OF CLERKS.

To wait the County Meetings.

To record the proceedings of the County Meetings.

To collect the taxes, and pay the same to the Treasurers.

To transmit to the Secretary a list of the elected Fellows, and the persons recommended as candidates for a gratuitous course of lectures, immediately after the County meetings, for publication.

To make certificates of Fellowship, as he transmitted to the Secretary, on or before the first day of the Convention.

To transmit duplicate lists of the Members of the Society, to the Secretary and Treasurer, on or before the first day of the Convention, on the penalty of five dollars for each neglect.

To return the names of delinquent Members of the Society.

DISSERTATIONS READ IN CONVENTIONS.

1794. Dr. S. H. P. Lee, on *Animal Bilious Fever*.
 " Dr. Gideon Shepherd, on the *Properties of Opium*.
 1795. Dr. F. P. Ousiere, on the *Preparations of Antimony*.
 " Dr. Thaddeus Betts, on the *different species of Colic*.
 1796. Dr. F. P. Ousiere, on the *Contagion of Yellow Fever*.
 " Dr. S. H. P. Lee, on *Cynanche Tonsillaris*.
 " Dr. Lewis Collito, on the *most eligible mode of increasing Medical Knowledge in this State*.
 " Dr. Gideon Shepherd, on the *same subject*.
 1798. Dr. Samuel Hopkins, case of *Bilious Concretion*.
 " Dr. Jared Pomeroy, "*An Essay*."
 1799. Dr. Thaddeus Clark, a *Dissertation*.
 1800. Dr. Nathaniel Dwight, on *Lentacy*.
 1804. Dr. Samuel Willard, on the *Stafford Mineral Waters*.
 1817. Dr. W. R. Fowler, on the *deleterious effects of Ardent Spirits*.
 1818. Dr. William Buch, on *Ergot*.
 1820. Dr. Thomas Miner, on *Typhus Fever*.
 1821. Dr. Samuel Rockwell, on *Uterine Hemorrhage*.
 1822. Dr. William Tully, on the *Yellow Fever at Middletown*.
 1823. Dr. Dyer T. Braisard.
 1827. Dr. Samuel B. Woodward, on the *Biography of the Physicians of the State*.
 1829. Dr. George Sumner, on *Extra-uterine Conception*.
 1830. Dr. Charles Hooker, on *Diseases of the Ear*.
 1835. Dr. Benjamin Welch, Jr., on the *Vitality of the Blood*.
 1836. Dr. E. H. Bishop, on the *Influence of Moral Emotions on Disease*.
 1837. Dr. Archibald Welch, on *Scarlet Fever*.
 1838. Dr. Isaac G. Porter, on the *Disease commonly denominated Spinal Irritation*.
 1839. Dr. Henry Bronson, on the *Mental qualifications necessary to a Physician*.
 1840. Dr. Richard Warner, on the *advantages of prompt and efficient practice in Acute Diseases*.
 1841. Dr. Amariah Brigham, on *Insanity as a subject of Medical Jurisprudence*.
 1842. Dr. Charles Woodward, on *Uterine Irritation*.
 1843. Dr. Pierckney W. Ellsworth, on *Pileitis*.
 1844. Dr. Worthington Hooker, on the *respect due to the Medical Profession, and the reasons that it is not awarded by the community*.
 1845. Dr. Nathan B. Ives, on *Laryngismus Stridulus*.
 1846. Dr. Theodore Sill.—*Observations on Typhus Fever*.
 1847. Dr. E. K. Hunt.—*The Importance of a Medical Organization, and the advantages resulting from it*.

DISSERTATION.

IMPORTANCE AND ADVANTAGE OF A MEDICAL ORGANIZATION.

BY E. K. HUNT, M. D.

Read at the Annual Meeting, May 12, 1847.

Mr. President, and Gentlemen of the Convention :

THE Medical Society of this State, whose offices, honors, and responsibilities are now committed to your care, was incorporated in the year 1792, "on the ground, that well regulated Medical Societies, have been found to contribute to the diffusion of true science, and particularly to a knowledge of the healing art."

Such was the language of our honored predecessors, and such the great argument with which they appeared before the legislature of this Commonwealth, praying for the passage of an act of incorporation for this Society. They thirsted for knowledge, and their observation, if not their personal experience, taught them that such societies as they proposed to establish had, elsewhere, "contributed to the diffusion of true science, and particularly to a knowledge of the healing art."

Success attended their application, and for more than fifty years has this Society silently and unostentatiously, yet steadily, shed its benign influence over the medical mind of this State, diffusing through its entire mass, "true science," we trust, and "particularly a knowledge of the healing art."

Among the means proposed for accomplishing a leading purpose of its intelligent founders, was that of requiring, on each returning year, a dissertation, suited to the occasion, to be prepared and delivered before this learned and honorable body, by one of its members.

In conformity with this feature of its organization, the first address before this Society was delivered at Middletown, Oct. 8th, 1794,

and from that period to the present, it has with a steadily increasing uniformity, honored one or another of its members, by assigning to them this responsible task.

Having been appointed to officiate on this occasion, by the partiality of your predecessors, and in compliance with the usage of this Society, in reflecting upon a theme on which to address you, it has appeared to me not unsuited either to the occasion, or to the circumstances of this Society, to consider, during the time allotted to this exercise, first the importance, and secondly, the advantages of a medical organization.

The discussion of this subject might seem rather to befit an elder than a junior member of the medical Society of this State, and I have ventured upon it now, not, I hope, in consequence of an undue estimate of my ability to do it justice, but because it seemed appropriate to our present need, and because I felt assured of a liberal and intelligent audience, who would lend a favoring ear to the voice of truth, whencesoever it came, and whose superior intelligence would conduct to its legitimate conclusion whatever division of our subject might be left incomplete; modifying and adapting to a larger range of observation and more numerous facts, those topics on which a comparatively limited experience might have led me to a partial or wrong decision.

A most striking feature of our times is, that men project and execute in masses, the great, and often stupendous undertakings that characterize the age. Our systems of education, our laws and civil policy, our noble charities, our railroads and canals, the vast scheme of ocean navigation, are all of them monuments of the united genius, enterprise, and efforts, of a free and intelligent people. The strength of a single arm, the efforts of an intellect acting alone, the energy and resources, however great, of one man, are slightly, if at all, felt or noticed by the public generally. These elements of power and influence however, as they exist in the individual, when united to corresponding qualities in other individuals and acting in harmony with them, make an aggression, often profound and lasting, upon the interests, not only of communities, but of states and nations. Evidences of the surprising efficiency of united and concentrated effort exist every where around us, and constitute the ground-work of our unexampled progress as a people.

Now this distinctive feature of the age, applies equally to all classes of society, and to every scheme of improvement and reform. From

its influence, operating with the steady uniformity of a physical law, our own organization can, if it would, neither claim nor expect exemption. It originated indeed in obedience to it, and can exist and flourish only in conformity with this all-governing power. Nor will it be the desire of any member of this body, that the medical interests of the State should occupy a place without the pale of popular influence or popular favor. We claim, indeed, that ours are, in a special manner, the interests of humanity; and that, as guardians of this high trust, we ought ever to be in the closest sympathy with the people in all their physical wants and necessities. We ask for no special privileges nor legislative favors to assist us in upholding a special prerogative, and if statutory enactments have ever been sought by the profession, it has been with the intent solely, to protect the most valued interests of society, not for the purpose of securing to itself exclusive advantages. If errors have at any time been committed, or wrongs inflicted, they have been such as a glance at the circumstances of the times would palliate in the judgment of the candid and enlightened, if it did not wholly, excuse them.

When I assert, indeed, that the faculty of medicine have ever been the steadfast champions and intelligent supporters of the highest earthly interests of man, the assertion will receive a hearty response, corroborative of its correctness, from every individual who hears me; for your united experience testifies to its soundness, and your studies and observations have long since established in your minds the same truth, as applicable to your brethren every where. If, therefore, we claim that a medical organization is important, it is not because we have a controversy with the people, or that we desire or expect one, but rather because the times, and the mighty results of united organized effort, in reference to all things else, demand it of us. Not to avail ourselves of this element of progress, would be speedily to fall in the rear, as it respects our own, of the other great interests of man, and to subject ourselves to the mingled regret and contempt which inevitably attend the feeble, convulsive movements of a sluggish or expiring body. More than this. Should we fail to prove ourselves equal to the duties and responsibilities, which the age imposes on us, and drift on listlessly with the tide of progress, without an effort for our own advancement, men would arise, such as the circumstances and wants and sympathies of man, in this, the middle of the 19th century, demand, who would take from our palmed hands the sceptre which they now hold; changing and adapting to present purposes and desires, that medical fabric which has been

constructed by our labor and at our expense, and which is now at our disposal. Inactivity and supineness seal our doom. So should it be. Who would mourn, or feel a single regret, in consequence of the extinction of a class or body of men, who have peopled themselves, in sentiment and by their acts, to belong to a by-gone age? Destiny required their extermination. They were clogs on the wheels of advancement, an incubus on the active and aspiring spirit of the age.

I advert to this dread alternative to vigorous, united, and untiring activity, to disclose for a moment the abyss, on the brink of which that man, or body of men, or that community, stand, who would steadfastly resist the great idea of the age, or even halt in their march of improvement. We desire, and intend to hold that position in society through all coming time, that we have done in the past; and to do it, not by endeavoring to keep in darkness our fellow men, or to shroud in mystery the principles and practice of our art, but by pressing forward quite as rapidly as they, by means of like agencies; thereby maintaining our relative position. We would show, and make it more apparent every day, to the least observant, that it is the earnest desire of our hearts, the end of all our labors, first, to prevent disease; secondly, to heal if possible, *cito, tuto, et jucunde*, all who suffer from it; and thirdly, to relieve, so far as we can, those whom we are unable to cure. Thus may we expect effectually to overcome prejudice, to enlighten the public mind, counteract the base designs of charlatans, and exercise that control over all matters pertaining to public or private health, which appropriately belongs to the medical profession. In many quarters, more particularly in cities and populous places, our principle of organization has long been made available, in studying, arranging and generalizing the masses of facts, which are the fruit of united and harmonious investigations. Nature is thus inquisitively interrogated in respect to all her secret operations, and her responses, often clear and explicit, yet sometimes ambiguous and obscure, laid open to the observation of all, who may here provide themselves with weapons wherewith to resist the onset, or repel the ravages of disease.

In compliance with the promptings of this sentiment, and in acknowledgement of its authority and power, have the members of our profession, gathered from every portion of our common country, just concluded a Convention, organized to "deliberate on the means which should be adopted to improve medical science; to increase the usefulness, to elevate the character and standing, and to protect the interests of the profession." We may well hail it as an *epoch*—

ing great good. Is an undertaking like this, however, individual effort, and that of one or even several States, would prove wholly abortive. The remedy must be every way commensurate with the evils it would eradicate, or the good it would accomplish. It demands, as it has secured, united, organized effort; that of men who clearly perceive the magnitude and importance of the task they have assumed; for upon the result of these deliberations, depend, in no small degree, the future progress and relative standing of the profession. We can but wish them every success, in this new, and almost boundless field of labor, which most happily illustrates the importance of an organized movement; and the results of which, we hope, will establish its surpassing value to the profession.

It is not for national purposes alone, however, as has been already intimated, that medical organizations are desirable or requisite. The soul-stirring power of the principle upon which they depend, when once developed in the mind, adapts man for effort on a scale proportionate to the object, whether great or small, to be accomplished. Is it confined to the petty affairs of a town, village, or school district? We see its influence in the laying down of plans of operations, the marshalling and systematic management of those slender forces, which the object to be attained seems to require. Does a County or State become the theater of some important movement? We behold the same agencies, expanded to meet the exigencies of the case, fulfilling with energy and surprising accuracy, though duly authorized instrumentalities, their various purposes. Nothing, perhaps, will so strikingly illustrate the power of our principle, and its applicability to the circumstances of a whole people, in their various relations, as the movements and operations of political parties. We are not less astonished at the power which it here manifests, than at the vast extent over which its effects are felt. The whole nation is not too great for its grasp, nor an obscure hamlet, in some lonely valley, beneath its notice. On the contrary, both seem to be equally suited to its exercise, and equally subject to its control.

Having thus inferred the importance of a medical organization, first, from the fact that it is by organized, concentrated action that the times are peculiarly characterized, and that it is to this feature we owe the greatest and most valuable improvements of the age; secondly, from the circumstance, that the principle is applicable to every class of men, for whatever purpose organized; thirdly, that it has been adopted elsewhere, to great advantage by our profession, and is now in the "full tide of successful experiment" in our own country,

on a scale limited only by its own almost boundless extent; I feel at liberty to entertain the belief, that you will regard such an organization as indispensable to the medical profession of this State, and that its members are each, bound by the highest considerations of duty and honor, not only to sustain, but, according to his ability, to infuse new life, and increased capacity for usefulness, into the Medical Society of Connecticut.

I may next proceed to the *second division* of our subject: the advantages connected with, and which may reasonably be expected to result from, medical organization.

It will be my purpose to name but few, of many that will occur to you, and those, such only as my subject most obviously suggests. The first is this: it brings together the members of the profession. This, however, is not a benefit, unless it be rightfully improved. To meet merely, and to separate, would be of no service to any, but rather a waste both of time and labor, with no resulting good. But this is hardly supposable, nor at all probable. Let us enquire then, what advantages may, and do usually attend and follow such meetings as the terms of our organization contemplate. In the first place, they renew and strengthen the ties of friendship between those already known to each other. Time, like fire, dissolves all bonds of whatever nature, that are not occasionally repaired and cemented anew, by the hands that formed them. Beneath its touch friendships crumble, and the tenderest affections of the heart, imperceptibly, yet surely, fade away. Hence the necessity of frequently renewing those acquaintances and friendships, which accident or design may have led us to form.

In the second place, it enables those who are strangers, at once to establish a fellowship with their medical brethren, and if, as we have a right to suppose, the parties are equally worthy of a mutual acquaintance, the interview is mutually and equally advantageous. What would otherwise have probably been a work of years, and indeed might never have taken place, is, by means of an organization, suitably formed and conducted, made the business of a day, and minds which had previously been separate and isolated, are now made to act in concert, while sympathies never before felt, are called into active and delightful exercise. Moved by common interests and impulses, experiencing amidst the every day duties of life, the inspiring influence of professional sympathy, and sustained amidst the manifold perplexities and trials incident to practice, by timely pro-

fessional council, we come to regard the relation as, indeed, what it is so frequently called, *fraternal*.

Entertaining for each other sentiments like these, the members of our Society, it must be admitted, converse under circumstances most favorable to improvement. A mutual confidence opens every heart, a generous friendship renders all communicative, and a high regard for truth, with a clear conception of its bearings upon the interests of man, as well as the profession itself, leads to an earnest boldness in the expression of opinions, and a careful discrimination between fallacious theories, and well established principles. Thus each imports, and in turn, derives much good from these free and kindly interchanges of sentiments, sympathies and opinions.

We should leave these general views but half considered, did we omit to dwell for a moment, upon the moral effect connected with a medical organization. The very constitution of our being, forbids that it should be wholly inoperative in this respect. From infancy we have been subject to the sway of moral forces of various kinds, as we passed along through the successive stages of life, and have observed the power of associated influence upon the minds of many others. I can but think, that the high moral tone, characterizing the sentiments and actions of the members of this Society, the purity of the principles contained in that code of ethics by which we are governed in this relation, exercise a powerful influence over the minds of all; and are especially serviceable by the encouragement they afford, for "patient continuance is well doing," those who are prone to despond, either from a want of firmness of soul, or in consequence of observing the temporary triumphs of the wicked; and those, also, who see little to admire in virtuous principle, except when illustrated by a shining example.

There is a power also in organized action, as well for repressing evil, as for the more direct purpose of *doing good*. Some short-sighted persons there are in every community, the evidence of whose senses can hardly be trusted, who judge of the merit of an act, or the result of a measure, by its more immediate and manifest effects. They are far want of a discriminating judgment, not in consequence of a deliberate purpose to do wrong, and are rather objects of consideration, deserving the supervision and care of those better informed, than the censures which are pronounced against the more intelligent of wrong-doers. A good example, together with the wise counsel of superior minds, restrains such from the practice of vice or immorality, while the contrary effect would follow an opposite influence.

They are, indeed, the sport of those fortuitous circumstances amidst which their lot happens to be cast; to-day swayed and controlled by one variety of motives, to-morrow by their opposites. They can hardly be regarded as responsible agents, so completely subject are they to the dominion of whatever, for the hour, engrosses their minds.

This class have their representatives, few it is hoped, in our profession. If they swerve from the path marked out for them, it is because some counter influence has been operating on their minds, and obscured the principle, daily perceived at best, which had previously been their guide. If they go astray, dazzled by some *ignis fatuus*, in the shape of an all-healing compound, or some new mode of medical practice, just presented to the admiring gaze of the multitude, it is in consequence of a constitutional weakness of understanding and obtuseness of intellect, which leads them in other matters to mistake causes for effects, novelties for discoveries, shadows for substance. They are objects of pity, not of contempt. They do wrong, because they know no better. In every County of the State, there are probably some of this class belonging to our organization. They are a source of much annoyance and trouble to those officers of the Society who are charged with executive duties, and of well founded apprehension to those who have in honor and respectability near their hearts. They disregard, thoughtlessly it is true, those wholesome and salutary regulations which maintain harmony among the members, and unite them in systematic efforts for the common good; for they are the creatures of impulse, obeying that which, at the moment has possession of their minds. They swell the numbers, without increasing the power, of an organized body; lessening it, indeed, by wholly failing to meet the demands which, as members of an association, it is taken for granted, may fairly be made upon them. No organization can exist without them, nor is any complete with them. We are therefore to mark such, wherever they are, and take them under the special care of the Society; treating them with all the consideration due to members, and that kind forbearance which their unfortunate state may require. The concentrated power of organized action, operating as it does at all points, and in every direction, is precisely the support which they need, and the only agency adapted to the exigencies of their condition.

Another class there is, the opposite of these in many respects, yet resembling them in others. They too are in error, yet pursue the wrong, knowing that it is such, urged on by the impulses of a way-

ward and perverse disposition. Like all wrong-doers, they over-estimate the present, when contrasted with the future. A *note dancing* in the suburban, appears to their disordered vision, larger than the snow-capt mountain in the distant horizon. They thus misjudge in relation to all things, permitting the present to exercise an unwarrantable preponderance over the distant and future.

A second prominent error into which they usually fall, greatly to their own disadvantage and the discomfort of others, is an ever-growing selfishness. Do they possess a fact or principle which they deem of special value, they conceal it for private personal use. They will refuse to associate with the members of their own calling or profession, lest the superior abilities of some, or the more advantageous business relations of others, may interpose an insuperable barrier to their own efforts for rapid advancement and early gains. They even deal to stand upon the same footing with others, lest they may sometimes be required to participate in a common expenditure for a common benefit. This would be opposed to a *dearly cherished* principle of action, which is, in plain terms, to get as much as they can for as little as they can. Selfishness conceals from their minds the fact, that there is nothing incompatible in the exercise of the largest liberality towards others, and the most careful attention to one's own interests. They lose sight of that great central truth, which teaches that no single individual possesses all knowledge, or is alone capable of conferring benefits; but that, on the contrary, however pure or great he may be, however numerous his possessions, none will be found, capable of imparting to him information and instruction in various departments of knowledge, and repaying his every favor. Failing to perceive this, they go through life, with their hand against every man, and every man's hand against them."

Of such, deceit is a prominent characteristic. Having deceived themselves in a fundamental point, it is but natural that they should endeavor to cheat others likewise. The consequence is, that they weave about themselves a net, invisible indeed, yet too strong to be broken. It is gradually and imperceptibly formed; still the labors of every day appear in new modes, which are forever to shut up their better nature, and fatally mar their life's prosperity.

It would seem to one, whose much of thought, and elevation of character, qualified him for the task of judging, that the man who should pursue a course of conduct, so entirely at variance with his best interests, must be partially insane, did he not know the governing principles of his life, and the controlling motives in every act.

That web of fraud or falsehood, which he has been so long and industriously weaving, to entrap others, soon envelops the deluded being who constructed it, and can rarely be removed. It will go with him through life, it will envelop his soul as with a mantle, when it quits the body, and appear with it, in all its foulness and impurity, at the great day of account.

You will recognize representatives from this class too, among us, some of whom, if not all, it is hoped, may be influenced, for their and our own good, if proper incentives to a change of conduct be presented to their minds, at the proper time, and by suitable persons. They are chained by the cords that encircle them, and become irritable in temper and feelings. Every thing conspires to make them so, and to render this frame of mind, when once developed, permanent. We should approach them to do them good, and mindful of their state, treat them with gentleness, and in a spirit of kindness and forbearance. Actuated by no commendable motives it is true, they have strayed far from the path of rectitude. This however, by no means lessens our obligations to convince them, if possible, of their error, and to do all in our power to reclaim them. The one class of our brethren have gone astray, thoughtlessly, and in ignorance of the consequences that awaited their conduct. These have a claim upon our benevolent sympathies, and we are bound to point out to them a better way, and encourage them to walk therein.

The other class, notwithstanding they have little claim upon our sympathies, or feelings of charity, are still entitled, in the bonds of a common brotherhood, to that counsel, and those warnings, which wiser and better men are competent to give, and which may result in great good. An offender, seeing his error, may, if a suitable opportunity be presented, retrace his steps. It is our duty to provide such.

Our organization furnishes the means through which they may be successfully approached, and possibly restored, to the body of which they are the natural members. We have connected with us, men of wisdom and merit, men of age and experience in the world, men whose efforts in behalf of the erring could be attributed to no selfish motive, and might be attended with the most happy results. To them may we safely confide the delicate task of performing, in behalf of our organization, all such duties towards those who, from whatever cause, have severed the bonds of a suitable professional relationship, as the honor and usefulness of this Society may require.

There are, I am fully aware, men belonging to the class of whom

we are now speaking, whose conduct almost impels us to anger; some of whom, most of whom perhaps, are wholly incorrigible under any system of management; yet, let me ask, has enough been done by us as individuals, or as members of this body, for those belonging to it? Are we not guilty in this thing? Governed by feelings irritated by the perverse, dishonourable, and even dishonest practices of some, have we not too hastily formed the sweeping conclusion, that no success will avail for the improvement or reformation of any. Let each enquire, what is now the language of his heart, when he learns that a professional brother has done foolishly or wickedly? Is it, would that he had maintained his integrity inviolate, and stood forth in untarnished honor, still, before men? or rather, let him alone, let him reap the bitter fruits of his own doings, and as a beacon, warn others by his fate, against pursuing a similar career. Finally, let me enquire of you, which of these is the more manly, liberal, Christian?

In all this, I am asking for no qualification in our terms of association, for no compromise with dishonesty, knavery or deceit, for no undue toleration of errorists, but simply, that we should avail ourselves of the commanding position we occupy, from which we can speak with authority, and without the imputation of selfishness, to enlighten, and, if possible, reform those belonging to the classes respectively, of which we have just spoken.

Having considered the topics which are suggested by the contemplation of those personal and reciprocal influences, which a healthy, vigorous medical organization is adapted to effect, and indeed, can scarcely fail to produce, we are now prepared for another branch of our subject, and may consider in the next place, the facilities which are afforded, for acquiring and disseminating useful knowledge.

The County Societies will first, and especially, claim our notice. Occupying, as they do, a middle place between the individual on the one hand, and the State Society on the other, we may safely infer, that whatever means may be adopted, by which they shall be made the instruments of good, will be equally serviceable to all at either extreme.

Let us then, suppose a County Society, the members of which, animated by a sincere and earnest desire for professional improvement, are ready to adopt, and submit to all the inconvenience and fatigue incident to it, any plan by which this object may be attained.

Divide then your members into two, four or eight classes, as shall seem to be most desirable; select for each a subject for study, obser-

vation and investigation, and require from its Chairman, a written report, at the meeting next succeeding. Let them not be subjects, novel and strange, which furnish few practical examples during a life of professional observation; but rather, such as are comparatively familiar.

Fear not that these will fail to furnish matter of interest and instruction to members, or that entire unanimity of opinion or practice with respect to them, will be found to exist. A few trials will resolve your fears, and doubtless change your minds. Require your several committees to consider their respective subjects practically, having reference mainly, to the satisfying of such enquiries as will naturally occur to an intelligent, active member of the profession. Let them ascertain as near as may be, the numbers who suffer from the diseases of which they are each to take especial note, and the deaths that are occasioned by them respectively. Let them report the circumstances that attend their development and progress to their termination, the treatment employed, accurately, and in detail, and its apparent effect; the age, occupation and habits of the patient; the predisposing and proximate causes, so far as they can be satisfactorily ascertained; the locality in which the patient resides, whether upon a hill or in a valley; in a primitive or alluvial district, upon a damp soil, or one well drained; together with any other facts that may serve to elucidate the case, and add to the interest or information of members. Finally, let each committee present the general truth which may be fairly deducible from a careful survey of the subject, and leave it impressed as strongly as possible upon the minds of all. By bringing the energies of the whole medical mind of a County, to concentrated action upon a few subjects of the utmost practical importance, and in reference to which, we enjoy the most favorable opportunity for observation and investigation, we cannot fail to collect an immense mass of the most valuable material, with respect to which, explanations may be made, if required, discussions permitted, and data furnished for most accurate pathological deductions.

The facts and observations presented in the reports prepared for the County meetings, should be collated by a committee appointed for the purpose, which might well consist of the Fellows elect of the County, and those of special value and importance, forwarded in proper form, to the Convention, there to be again read and considered, and the good they are capable of conferring, spread throughout the State.

A single County has been the basis of the above remarks, yet they

will apply equally well to every and all other Counties of the State, which by an equally diligent use of the means and opportunities at their disposal, might collect an equal amount of facts and information, to swell the mass already accumulated. Indeed, they would furnish matter for deductions of great interest, and possibly of far greater proportionate practical value, than a single County could be expected to do. For example, these returns would show in what portions of the State, the diseases considered were most, and where least prevalent; where they were most severe, and where their course proves generally mild. In regard to some diseases, we know, that within the limits of a comparatively small district, great diversities exist with respect to their prevalence, if not their severity. I believe that a careful survey of this State, would show, that typhus fever prevailed much more extensively and severely in some parts or districts than others; and probably the same is true of many other diseases. Should such prove to be the fact, it might lead to examinations that would present important practical truths, of much interest to society, as well as to the profession.

Thus would each and every part, become a contributor of the most valuable and interesting information to every other part, receiving in return, more than an equivalent is kind, from its associate members, and furnishing to every individual belonging to the Society, the results of the experience of the four hundred and eighty-three physicians, now practicing in the State, together with the leading facts upon which they are founded. How else could a like amount of equally authentic, and valuable information be obtained; and is any thing more required to secure it, in all the vigor and freshness of its prime, than for each to resolve to perform his allotted portion of the task of obtaining and recording it? a task by no means difficult of accomplishment, when once resolutely undertaken.

Let us next enquire briefly, from what sources our early professional information is derived, and the character of it; for even this may furnish us an argument in favor of prosecuting the scheme now before us.

They are, it must be admitted, legitimate and approved. Our text-books are from authors of high and deserved reputation, our lecturers gentlemen of eminence in their several departments of instruction. They, however, are obliged to confine themselves usually to general principles, correct indeed, yet of such extended and varied application, as to produce often, a vague and indistinct impression upon the mind of the young auditor. Besides, many, if not all the

cases presented in illustration of these principles, are themselves furnished from the clinical wards of a hospital. But are not the inmates of hospitals, you may ask, human beings? Certainly, but these generally, whose constitutions are so completely subverted by long-continued disease, by dissipation or privations of every kind, as no longer to present more than a remote type of social humanity struggling with disease. Crowded together also, as they usually are, in those receptacles of poverty and wretchedness, the air confined and loaded with the effluvia of disease, the temperature imperfectly regulated, the mind depressed, and benumbed by excesses or disease, it is but reasonable to suppose, that their modifying influence upon the development and progress of disease in all its forms, should exist, and to the experienced eye, be strikingly apparent. My remarks apply, of course, to medical, in contra-distinction to purely surgical forms of disease. Operative surgery is better studied here than elsewhere, though after-treatment may require essential modification, in consequence of the depressing effects of one or more of the several agents just named.

Notwithstanding we are to entertain sentiments of sincere gratitude towards those whose hospital researches have done so much for humanity, and the progress of medicine, may we not, in view of the above circumstances, receive an ample recompense for carefully conducted researches with respect to the semeiology, pathology and treatment of disease, as it is manifested in the person of the previously vigorous and healthy subject, uninflected by those modifying circumstances, which are the necessary accompaniments of hospital practice? Advert for a moment to the outset of your own professional life, and recall the perplexities and doubts that exercised your minds at that trying period, and you will doubtless discover, that much of your difficulty originated from the causes we are now considering. To all members of our profession, of whatever age, the measure we propose will prove of invaluable service, but most perhaps to the young; to whose earnest consideration it principally commends itself. In what way can we more satisfactorily attain our end, than by the means now proposed? The dull monotony, and the comparatively small results that attend isolated, individual investigations, are here removed, and all the stimulus of associated effort, in a common cause, and for a common purpose, with its stirring results, is ours. Does it not become us, physicians of Connecticut, to establish the pathology, semeiology and treatment of the diseases of this State, on facts and observations of our own diligent and careful col-

lecting? The diseases of this State, are doubtless similar to those prevailing throughout New England. Of this, however, we are not certain; not having carefully studied them, and collected the facts necessary to establish or refute the proposition. Be this however as it may, our interest in the investigation will not be less, nor our reward the smaller, for having settled this question. We should in this manner, be sure to take careful note of the progress and return of epidemic constitutions, so well observed by the illustrious Sydenham, and not improbably, ultimately discover much that might be turned to good account, in the treatment or prevention of disease. A wide range of observation, too, might lead to the detection of the causes upon which epidemic influences depend, and through these, to the discovery of modes of modifying, if not wholly avoiding their effects. Nothing like definite notions prevail in regard to the effects of season upon the human constitution, though the fact of its influence is admitted, and doubtless affects our treatment of disease. This would furnish a grand topic for observation; the record of facts, and public discussion. Of speculations we might easily obtain a supply, but of facts, founded on careful, systematic, intelligent observation, recorded when made, not left till partially forgotten, and the interest which the search elicited, quite gone, a careful examination would indicate a great, if not culpable deficiency.

Let each systematize his time, and make due arrangements for the suitable investigation of the subject which has been assigned to the committee of which he is a member, and carefully and promptly record his facts; transmitting them at a time previously fixed upon, to the Chairman, for examination, as a basis, in common with those of others, of an elaborate report, first to the Comtee, and subsequently to the State Society. If any find it impossible to be present at the reading of the reports of the several committees, and the action of the Society upon them, they might at least attend, when their own report was brought forward for reading and discussion.

To appear first, in such a field of enquiry, to be first, in establishing the principles of practice, on a systematic, organized plan of operations, embracing an entire State, would be no small honor, nor less of substantial and lasting benefit, to those who should embark in the undertaking. It would secure to that body of physicians who might enter successfully upon it, a character for energy and far-reaching intelligence, that would redound greatly to their honor everywhere, and extend immeasurably the limits of their usefulness.

As a profession, it should be our earnest effort, and a source of

honest pride, to be prominent, first, among the profession of the sister States comprising our republic; and secondly, to desire for the whole profession of all the States, a like preeminence over those of other nations and countries. Of late, Connecticut seems to have forgotten the proud position she once held as a member of the confederacy, and to have rested upon her laurels, while the spirit by which she was then animated, seems to ebb in the hearts of her children. It is so, in other matters, as well as those having reference more particularly to our profession. The sons of those sires that have won for Connecticut her well-earned fame, are now here, and if they would but put forth their strength, she would rise again to the same relative place which she once held among the sisterhood of States. Gentlemen, this sentiment wants culture, and let it be one of the incentives to the bold resolve I now urge you to make.

But what is to become of the sick and suffering of the County during those deliberations, which such preparations as we propose, may justly demand? It is possible, that here and there, a patient may be neglected; indeed there may be pain and suffering which we would most gladly relieve; but must this deprive us of the benefits to be derived from the faithful prosecution of our measure? Suppose each member to return to his accustomed round of duty, with but a single new idea, his mind stimulated by contact with other minds, and his interest in the brethren as well as his professional pursuits, greatly increased—and this is a modest estimate of the good we may safely claim—of how much greater worth to his patients and friends will be his services, for the succeeding year, and with how much more alacrity will they be performed, than they would otherwise have been? Will not these advantages far more than counterbalance the inconvenience, or the positive harm that might possibly result from his temporary absence?

But again, is it not a duty to avail yourselves of these modes of professional advancement? How can one, engaged in a life-work involving responsibilities so numerous and great as are those of the members of the medical profession, reconcile it to his conscience to keep back, or hold himself aloof, from such means of knowledge, which are brought to his very doors? A calico-manufacturer, or the maker of wooden combs, would not do this. He would perceive at once, that his only chance for the successful prosecution of his business, depended upon his keeping up with the times. If from a want of shrewdness, or in consequence of slothfulness and inactivity, he falls ever so little in the rear, in the strife of a vigorous and persevering

competition, "his occupation's gone." Ought not men, animated as I doubt not we are, by far higher considerations, to be equally interested in the progress of medicine, with the manufacturer, in the advancement of the *petty* details of his art?

Again, gentlemen, consider for a little while, the character of our labors, as they bear upon our physical energies. No class of men, bond or free, poor or rich, so unremittingly, year after year, day and night, devote themselves to their avocations, as do we. Occasional seasons of repose fall to the lot of others. They know, that at certain seasons little will be required of them, and then arrives the period for relaxation and amusement. Hope comes to their support, even in the hour of severest labor, to give elasticity to their minds, and increased energy to their frames. Others, too, can delegate duty to assistants, who in turn, find relief from toil by bearing in succession the burthens imposed upon them.

But none of these privileges are ours. We can do no business by proxy. Knowing not what an hour may bring forth, we must sleep with our armor on. Such duties soon tell, by the whitened locks, the furrowed cheeks and brow, and the bending frame, the wounds they are making upon the life-principle of the man. Of this however, we would not complain. We have chosen our occupation, and must pursue it like men. These circumstances, however, do furnish a valid reason for an occasional withdrawal from our accustomed round of duty, to consult together for the great interests of man—his health and life. By this, we but show the greater and more enlightened devotion to our high calling; returning to it with increased knowledge, enlarged views, and still stronger incentives to be faithful in all things unto death.

Let us next enquire, what will be the effect of the prosecution of our proposed measure, upon the public mind. Our movements are observed by the people, from varying motives doubtless, yet in part because they are interested in them. If the profession is known to have adopted a systematic, comprehensive plan of improvement, which it is energetically pursuing: if in every town and district throughout the State, the people observe their physician, attentively and with interest, taking note of some one or more forms of disease; if he is known to take special pains to obtain accurate information with respect to his subject, and is at length seen, after the lapse of a year's patient research, to go to mingle the measure of facts which he has accumulated, with that of his brethren far and near, imparting and receiving a rich treasure of professional information; perceiving

this, what must be their inference? Clearly, that the physicians of their County have associated themselves together, for the commendable purpose of professional improvement, and that by means of it, they shall themselves, ultimately become participants in the benefit. To learn the proceedings of this body, as they will do in many places, will serve to create in their minds, if it do not already exist, a sense of the magnitude of our work, both with respect to the labor performed, and its results; and the vast superiority of those who have access to these means of improvement, over those who, from whatever cause, are deprived of them. This will be their first conclusion, without reference to the motives by which we are actuated. But if besides, they discover that we examine with candor, and intelligent interest, whatever is entitled to our attention, rejecting nothing in consequence of its source, or because it is at variance with preconceived notions, but because it fails when submitted to the only true test, that of careful, well-conducted experiment, they will form another, and still more important conclusion, viz. that we are actuated by benevolent as well as enlightened motives, and will yield a far more ready acquiescence to our opinions in respect to other things. Indeed, will not a proceeding like this, secure to us a place in public confidence, sympathy and favor, invaluable alike to all?

Let us next contemplate briefly, the condition of those of the profession who, though of us, might not be with us in this measure of professional improvement. Indifferent to the changes going on around them, taking no part with their brethren in their scheme for mutual improvement, they must of necessity deprive themselves of the sustaining sympathy, if not the favor of the profession. The largest charity could not regard with approval, a professional spectator indifferent to such a measure. The members of the Society would doubtless regret, both on his and their own account, the course he was pursuing, and would make every effort to awaken an interest in his mind, and engage his co-operation in their undertaking; for this would be their duty, as benevolent and enlightened men. Beyond this, they could not be made responsible.

They would moreover deprive themselves of all those opportunities for improvement which have been assiduously sought, together with the friendly counsel, the cordial co-operation and aid of their brethren; not in consequence of ill will or positive aversion on the part of the latter, but because there was little in common, either in sentiment or sympathy, between them. This contrast, also, would not escape the notice of a shrewd and observant people. No more would the active, intelli-

gent, enquiring physician engage their attention, than those whom we are now considering. On the one hand, they observe energy and diligence in the great business of professional life, on the other, indifference at least, if not sloth and inactivity. On the one hand, they perceive the exercise of a spirit of research and investigation, implying that the mind in which it has taken up its abode, is not wholly satisfied with what is, but seeks for progress in the discovery of new truths and principles, while on the other again, they behold a disposition to that course which custom and habit have made easy, and circumstances convenient, and a disinclination to change, because it requires thought, and may render some degree of exertion imperative. With respect to a contrast like this, the people speculate, as well as upon other things, in which, perhaps, their interests are less vitally concerned, and their conclusion will be, nine times in ten, that he who is not a member of the Association, is disqualified for becoming so, either from a want of suitable attainments, or in consequence of some delinquency or defect of character, or that a culpable degree of slothfulness and indifference to the great interests of his life, has taken possession of his mind. What, let me now ask, would be the relative chances of obtaining a professional practice on the one hand, and the successful prosecution of it on the other, of a physician belonging to the class whom I have last described, and the former? Would they be equal? Would they be half as good in the latter case as in the former? Would not he who should look with cold indifference upon our measure, or manifest towards it sentiments of positive disfavor, most certainly fall of ultimate success in the struggle of professional competition?

When the spirit which will conduct to such results as have been considered, is fairly awakened among us, proper apartments for the meetings of this Society will be required, and a suitable repository for such collections as may from time to time be made; whether they be books, documents, specimens in medical or healthy anatomy, or any of the several departments of natural history.

We shall not digress essentially, if we pause a moment to consider the subject of a room or hall for the purposes indicated, together with its effect upon the professional mind throughout the State. That it will be a matter for grave deliberation by this body, at no distant day, and of ultimate action, as it is now of speculation, I do not hesitate unqualifiedly to assert. It will constitute a professional era, not more in its accomplishment, than in the impulse it will give to the energy and mental activity of our medical men; awakening in

their hearts a new, and more lively sense of their united influence and professional responsibility. Here, the largest plans for professional improvement may be considered and arranged; here, whatever there is of special interest and value to the profession, may be deposited and preserved; this, we may regard as the home of our Society, not for the few short years during which it may be our privilege to assemble here, but for the successive generations that are to follow us through all future time. Here, in some one or all of its several departments, will be represented the professional mind of the entire State, and to this it will turn, as the seat of its associated power, and the scene of its public labors. Here, we may give a permanent expression to the long cherished sympathies of the heart, and perpetuate the remembrance of those, whom in life we honored and esteemed, and from whom, "in their death, we would not be wholly divided." Its walls will be adorned with the portraits of the good and distinguished of the profession, while tastefully and appropriately disposed, will be displayed the busts of others, equally deserving an honorable remembrance. Here, every County may record her grateful sense of surpassing excellencies in her distinguished sons, and preserve upon the canvas or in marble, the lineaments of those whose merits may deserve the noble tribute.

Assembled in such a place, surrounded with the numerous and instructive evidences of the skill, industry and learning of the past and present age; beholding upon its walls, or sculptured in ever-during marble, the forms and features of those who, living were the pride and ornament of our profession, and whose names we ever love to speak; how profoundly penetrated will be every mind by these sacred memorials, and how intensely stimulated to high and honorable effort, both for individual advancement, and the perpetual prosperity of our organization.

Another desirable purpose which our organization is intended to subserve, consists in the proper training of young men for the practice of medicine. In reference to our profession, this subject occupies the same relative place, that the proper instruction of its children does to the stability and prosperity of the Commonwealth. The character and respectability, if not the very existence of both, depend upon it. Elevate or depress the standard of attainment required for professional honors, and the effect becomes immediately apparent in our public councils, in private professional intercourse, and upon the popular mind.

We have already considered some of the results, that may reason-

ably be anticipated from the faithful, vigorous, and watchful judicious use of our organic power; but this is predicated wholly upon suitable preliminary attainments on the part of those who constitute it. None but men of sound and well cultivated minds, could accomplish the task, which the execution of our scheme requires. We should require, therefore, on the part of those who enter our ranks, acquisitions such as will enable them to perform their part of our united labor. To attain this object, it is necessary that each member who recurs into his office a student of medicine, should look well, first, to his moral qualities; secondly, to the strength and vigor of his intellect; and thirdly, to his attainments. It appears to me unwise, if not positively mischievous, to regard only or principally, the medical systems of instruction, existing at the present time, in Europe, making them our standard, in preparing the student for professional life. It would be quite as well, nay, far better, if those who assume this responsible relation, would recur to their own experience, as students and practitioners, on the one hand, and on the other, to the amount of knowledge demanded for the safe and successful practice of medicine in its several departments. Governed by the decision to which a candid survey of the subject, viewed in this light, would conduct them, there would be little occasion for that union with reference to it, which is now deemed requisite, by the profession in all parts of our country. It is absurd to suppose that any young man, whatever his abilities, can acquire, in the period assigned for professional study, that thorough acquaintance with medicine in its several departments, which the interests of the public, and his own best good equally, and imperatively demand, without possessing a sound and vigorous intellect, cultivated and improved by study.

The truth of this sentiment, is practically exemplified in the history of many of the junior members of the profession; and in many cases it is attributable to this circumstance alone, that the practitioner wholly fails of success, or reaches only a humble rank in his chosen calling. The ardor and inexperience of youth should be suitably repressed, by a plain, unvarnished statement of facts, together with such suggestions as will naturally occur to the mind, on an occasion like this, and the truth be made to appear, that it is far better for the individual, without reference to the public weal, to take more time to prosecute his professional studies, and avail himself more fully of the opportunities for improvement which are open to him as a student, than to rush, after the briefest period of preliminary study that the law allows, into all the weighty and perplexing responsibil-

ties and trials incident to practice. Whoever pursues the latter course, has his profession to acquire after having theoretically attained its highest honors. All arguments growing out of the wants of medical science by the people, and of limited pecuniary means on the part of the candidate, are wholly worthless, when applied to the case before us. The people will not employ the class of physicians whom I have named, as our daily observation teaches; and as to pecuniary means, are limited conscious any argument in favor of a man's entering early into practice, if, subsequently, with increased expenditures, his means of support are to be in no way increased!

Duty to ourselves, to the young man who would make either of us his professional instructor, and to the public, enjoin it upon us to be especially faithful at this period, fraught with such serious consequences. Those three important requisites that have been named, should severally be applied carefully and dispassionately to each, and if with respect to either, the applicant be found to be clearly deficient, he should, with a statement of our reasons for so doing, be dismissed. Uniformity of action on the part of members with respect to this subject, would render it easy, and soon introduce to practice, a class of physicians capable of discharging with ability and success the duties devolving upon them, and maintaining the dignity and honor of the profession. We are now happy to greet as members, many who have fulfilled all the conditions requisite to make them useful, and consequently, safe and successful physicians, and only ask, that the same caution shall be exercised towards all future applicants. The course will be popular, both with the profession at large, and the people, because it is right in itself, and appears, as it indeed does, to look with a jealous watchfulness to the welfare of society.

The importance of this feature of our subject will more fully appear when we consider the fact, that the estimate of man in the community, is founded in no inconsiderable degree, I may say principally, upon his merits in the several respects that have been named. We know, that incidental circumstances may, at the outset of professional life, give to the inferior of two candidates for practice, a temporary advantage, but that time, the only unerring triebstone of true merit, will assuredly change the relation. The public no longer inquire, when estimating the claims of any one, from what ancestors he sprung, with whom he pursued his professional studies, at what medical college he received his degree, how much property he may possess, nor how old he is. These are questions that interested the minds of other days. Now, a man is required to prove that he pos-

senses what his professions claim. He must prove himself honest and capable in his calling, by direct experiment, performed, often, under circumstances, most trying to the feelings, as well as principles, and unfavorable to success. His claim to a sound understanding, and a well cultivated intellect, is to be subjected to a similar ordeal. These are now the tests to which the candidate for professional practice and distinction must make up his mind to submit, and if he consult his best interests, prepare himself accordingly.

It is asserted, I know, by some, that this matter is one to be left for decision wholly with the Faculties of our respective medical schools. Having it in their power to require three years of study previous to graduation, it is said that they can effectually prevent the ill consequences which indifference on the part of teachers to those leading qualities that have been named are calculated to produce, and introduce to the profession, only those who may claim the privilege, by compliance with stringent regulations. Admitting this to be true, is it right for us to evade wholly this responsibility, and receive into our offices young men, however doubtful their characters, however feeble their mental capacities, however meager their preliminary qualifications for prosecuting professional study with satisfactory success, for the reason solely, that they are able to pay the cost and charges incident to the relation of instructor and pupil? leaving it for the Faculty of some distant medical school, who can form but a partial acquaintance with the numerous students who listen to their lectures during the brief period of their duration, to disclose to the unfortunate young man, who has spent years of valuable time in unprofitable study, and money which often he can ill afford, the painful fact, that, for reasons, which were equally palpable to his perception, at the commencement of his pupilage, as now to themselves, the diploma for which the candidate has long and laboriously been striving, will not be granted him, and that he cannot receive the sanction of that institution, for the practice of medicine. Will any dispassionate mind, in view of the whole subject, regard it as an honorable or just transaction on the part of the teacher towards his unfortunate pupil, or towards the Faculty of the school, upon whom, at the latest moment, he imposes this painful duty? It can not, nor will the responsibility be assumed by any school, any where. It belongs, of necessity, jointly with us; not wholly, I cordially agree, and it is for us to see to it, that we are true to ourselves, true to those who submit themselves, as pupils to our guidance and instruction, and true to society, in this department of professional duty.

There is another topic which has hitherto engaged little attention from the members of the profession, and none at all from our Societies, whether State or County; one too, that deserves special notice at our hands. I refer to the biography of the honored dead. Many of our profession, who have served faithfully, with eminent ability, and distinguished success, the people of their generation, have gone down to the grave and been forgotten, because no friendly hand has appeared to record their names and merits. Contemplate for a moment, the history of our profession in this State. It is almost a blank. The dark waters of oblivion roll over it. Were one of us to attempt to-day, the task of writing a medical history of Connecticut, what authentic material could he command, wherewith to accomplish the work? Exceptions, it must be admitted, here and there exist, which, perhaps, we as often owe to a grateful patient, who has himself been rescued from impending death, by him to whom he offers this tribute of affectionate remembrance, as by one of our own number. Gentlemen, can we afford to part with the well-earned fame of these noble men, who have gone before us, at so cheap a rate? Is it not unkind, unfeeling, for the sons and successors of such sons and predecessors, thus to manifest towards them such marked indifference? Call to mind, I pray you, some worthy professional neighbor and friend, whom, a few years ago you well knew, whom you had long known, but who is now dead, and consider the difficulties that would meet you on every hand, were you to attempt to portray his life, as exemplified among the people of his charge? The lineaments of his long familiar face, his carriage and general appearance, have imperceptibly faded from your recollection, crowded into the background of your memory, by the pressure of thick, and evercoming events; while the characteristic features of his mind, his peculiar sayings, his professional views and practice, his manner with the sick, the general habit of his life, those, which reveal all that is truly interesting and valuable of the man, these are still less distinctly retained in your treacherous memory. Thus, he too, however dear in life, and however heartily mourned in death, will soon swell the long catalogue of the forgotten dead. You can but admit, that this ought not so to be; that there are names "whom we should not willingly, let die." The past we cannot recall. It is gone, laden with the rich treasures of departed worth. But the present is ours, and the future, as it relates to this topic of mournful, yet pleasing interest, is subject to our control. Can we not make provision now, against a contingency which we must all deeply deplore? I am sure

the question meets a ready and cordial response from every heart, that we can and must. What then shall it be? It must be simple, yet effective, and pervade the entire State. Permit me to suggest, that a Committee be appointed at each annual meeting, in every County, who shall be charged with this sad duty, and furnish at the end of the year, at the next annual meeting, the names, together with a suitable biography, of those, who have, during the interval, ²¹ rested from their labors."

The papers prepared by them, well and carefully preserved in the archives of each County, will furnish rich and ample material, wherewith to illustrate every succeeding period of our professional history. In order to subserve the great purpose for which they are designed, these biographies, should be both discriminating and truthful, to a greater degree than is usual in writings of this class. Avoiding carefully the language of exaggeration, to which the feelings of friendship so strongly incline, those to whom this task is assigned, should select, for preservation, the leading incidents and events in the life of the person they would commemorate, together with his distinguishing characteristics, "extenuating nothing, nor setting down aught in malice." To the older members of the profession, a monument of this kind would, moreover, be highly acceptable, by furnishing them an occasional opportunity to go back into the past, to refresh their recollections of departed friends,—to live over again the days of other years,—while to the young it will prove a strong incentive to honorable effort, and the faithful discharge of duty.

We have not been called upon in our organized capacity, for some years, to unite our efforts in behalf of any great public charity, or work of reform. The records of this body however, show that its labors at different periods, have been expended in successful endeavors, so to arouse and interest the public mind, as to secure its co-operation, in the accomplishment of undertakings, having for their object, the amelioration and cure of certain dismal forms of disease.

The fruits of these united professional labors, most conspicuously recorded by an enlightened and benevolent people, we now behold in yonder noble pile, dedicated to the relief and cure of insanity. In reference to others, says a late President of this Society,*—"The profession first suggested the possibility of instructing the deaf and dumb, in the art of reading and writing—of teaching them the manner of communicating by signs—of furnishing the usual with abstract ideas, and leading it from nature, through the paths of systematic instruc-

tion, up to a knowledge of nature's God. Also of teaching the blind to read and write; thus while the mute was taught the mysteries of the invisible, the blind was brought in connection with the physical world. For these improvements, the community are mostly indebted to the medical profession; and so far as our State participates in these blessings, to the members of the Medical Society, both collectively and individually."

If we go back to the early history of those institutions of which mention has been made, we shall learn, from the circumstances which are there recorded, and the discussions connected with the action of this body respecting them, that the very idea, which we now see developed into beautiful and permanent proportions, and operating so successfully, almost within the reach of my voice, was a few years ago, itself wholly new, to a large majority of minds. This circumstance it was, that greatly enhanced the labors of those who were active in founding them, and adds not a little, to the honor which would otherwise have attended their successful efforts. It is no often that we consider, how difficult it is, and how much time is required, to impress a truly valuable practical truth, upon either the professional or public mind. The history of medicine furnishes some striking illustrations of the fact, while that of almost every department of mechanical industry, is thickly sown with them. When duly considered, however, and fully appreciated, we no longer wonder at the slow progress that attends almost every movement towards radical reform, or improvement, and are deeply impressed with a sense of the importance of steady, unflinching, united effort, in developing and reducing to its practical results, any great idea, having reference to the progress or benefit of the race.

In view of what has already transpired within the range of our observation and experience, no one will have the rashness to suppose, that effort in this department of benevolence must be exhausted, or that no suitable object for its exercise, is ever again to occur to the mind of man. A single year may find some project before this body, which will as imperatively demand our support, and as richly reward our labors for its accomplishment, as have our Retreat for the Insane, and other similar institutions. Let this then furnish an argument, and that one of no little force, in favor of maintaining a second and efficient organization, every way competent to grapple with, and overcome any impediment, that may oppose our benevolent designs.

PROCEEDINGS

AT THE

ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

CONNECTICUT MEDICAL SOCIETY,

MAY, 1848.

TOGETHER WITH

A LIST OF MEMBERS, AND THE ANNUAL ADDRESS.

HARTFORD:

THURGOOD, CASE, TIFFANY AND BURNHAM.

1848.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

ARCHIBALD WELCH, M. D., President.
GEORGE SUMNER, M. D., Vice President.
V. M. DOW, M. D., Treasurer.
• GURDON W. RUSSELL, M. D., Secretary.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Committee of Examination:

ARCHIBALD WELCH, M. D., *ex officio*.
H. A. GRANT, M. D.
EARL SWIFT, M. D.
WILLIAM WITTER, M. D.
RICHARD WARNER, M. D.
ALVAN TALCOTT, M. D.

Committee to nominate Physicians to the Retreat for the Insane

JOHNSON C. HATCH, M. D.
R. M. WOODRUFF, M. D.
STURGES BULKLEY, M. D.
HIRAM HOLT, M. D.
WORTHINGTON HOOKER, M. D.

Committee to nominate Professors in the Medical Institution of Yale College.

GEORGE BLACKMAN, M. D.
N. B. FVES, M. D.
G. E. HAWLEY, M. D.
WM. H. COGSWELL, M. D.
ALDEN SKINNER, M. D.

The President and Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society met in Convention at the Medical College, New Haven, May 10th, 1848.

Henry Benson, M. D., was appointed Secretary *pro tem.* in the temporary absence of the Secretary.

Drs. Cogswell, Beach and Talcott, were appointed a Committee on the election of Fellows, and they reported the list as presented by the Secretary, which was accepted.

FELLOWS.

HARTFORD COUNTY.

E. K. Hunt, M. D.
David Cary, M. D.
Josiah C. Bunting.
Hercus C. Gilberts, M. D.
John F. Wells, M. D.

NEW HAVEN COUNTY.

G. O. Sauer, M. D.
Alvan Talcott, M. D.
Henry Benson, M. D.
G. L. Platt, M. D.
W. J. Whiting, M. D.

NEW LONDON COUNTY.

*N. S. Perkins, M. D.
R. Fátýee Barker, M. D.
*W. W. Miner, M. D.
*Dyer T. Brainard, M. D.
*George E. Palmer, M. D.

WETHERS COUNTY.

Hiram Holt, M. D.
Joseph Palmer, M. D.
Elijah Baldwin, Jr., M. D.
William H. Cogswell, M. D.
James B. Whitcomb, M. D.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY.

Rufus Blakeman, M. D.
Sturges Bulkley, M. D.
Samuel Beach, M. D.
*H. N. Bennett, M. D.
Elijah Middlebrook, M. D.

ARCHFIELD COUNTY.

Norman Lyman, M. D.
William W. Welch, M. D.
*A. A. Wright, M. D.
Johnson C. Hatch, M. D.
D. B. North, M. D.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY.

William B. Cady, M. D.
Frederick U. Shepard, M. D.
G. C. H. Gilbert, M. D.

ISLAND COUNTY.

Francis L. Dickinson, M. D.
Gilbert H. Preston, M. D.
Alden Skinner, M. D.

The reading of the Dissertation was, on motion, postponed until one o'clock.

Dr. Barker offered the following resolution, which he moved be laid upon the table for the present.

Resolved, That it be recommended to each County Society to appoint a Committee of three to examine the candidates for the gratuitous course of lectures, and that no student be recommended for this course, who is not found to possess the preliminary education, advised by the American Medical Association.

It was subsequently taken up and rejected, the whole matter being considered as covered by a resolution passed at the last Convention.

Dr. Hunt presented the following, passed at a meeting of the Hartford County Society.

Resolved, That the money now collected by a tax imposed upon the members of the Medical Society of this State, for defraying the expenses of the Fellows to this Convention, be no longer devoted to this purpose, but instead, to the publication of a medical work, under the direction of a committee appointed for this object, and that every tax-paying member of this Society, on payment of his tax, be entitled to a copy of said work.

On motion this was referred to a committee of one from a county, consisting of Drs. Hunt, Barker, Blakeman, Casey, Talcott, Holt, Lyman, Dickinson.

On motion of Dr. Blakeman, a committee was appointed on the subject of candidates recommended for the gratuitous course of lectures.

Drs. Barker, Gillette, Bouch, Gilbert, G. O. Sumner, Cogswell, Hatch, Poston.

The Treasurer presented a Circular on the Adulteration of Drugs, from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, which with a copy of the Memorial to Congress, were read, and the subject was referred to Drs. Benson, Bulkeley and Palmer.

Dr. Barker and Professor Knight, made a statement of the proceedings of the American Medical Association, in relation to this matter.

The Treasurer then read his Report, of which the following is an abstract.

Balance in Treasury,	- - - - -	\$15 99½
Due from Clerks, supposed to be good,	\$1171 33	
Deduct for Abatements 15 per cent., and		
for Commission,	- - - - 233 33	568 60
Assets,	- - - - -	684 50½
Outstanding Debentures,	- - - - -	304 00
Balance in favor of the Society,	- - - - -	\$500 50½

On motion of the Vice President, it was

Resolved, That the Treasurer's Report be referred to a committee of eight, to examine and report the cause of the present embarrassed condition of the treasury, and suggest what measures should be adopted to correct the evil in question.

And Drs. Hunt, Barker, Beach, Casey, G. O. Sumner, Whitcomb, Welch and Preston were appointed.

Dr. Platt presented the following, which, on his motion, was laid on the table for after consideration.

Whereas, it is believed to be the custom of the regular physicians of the State, at the present time, to render medical services to clergymen and their families gratuitously;

And whereas it is believed that as a class of citizens, (their education, intelligence, and moral standing considered,) they do more than any other class in the community to enhance the legitimate influence of the medical profession;

Therefore, *Resolved*, That as a rule we adopt the practice of charging clergymen the same fees as other citizens, except in cases of misfortune or inability, which would render it burdensome to make a just compensation for services rendered.

A Dissertation was then read by B. Purdyes Barker, M. D., "On some forms of non-malignant disease of the cervix uteri."

Resolved, That the thanks of the Convention be presented to Dr. Barker, for his Dissertation just read, and that a copy be requested for publication with the Proceedings.

Drs. Middlebrook, Talcott, and Casey, were appointed to nominate a Dissertation for the next Convention.

A committee consisting of Drs. George Sumner, Perkins, Blakeman, Shepard, Platt, Holt, Lyman, and Skinner, were appointed on Honorary Degrees and Honorary Membership.

A communication from Dr. Charles A. Lee, acknowledging his election as an Honorary Member, was read, and ordered to be placed on file.

On motion, adjourned until four o'clock P. M.

FOUR O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to nominate a Dissertation, reported the name of Alvan Talcott, M. D. of Guilford, and he was appointed.

The Committee on Honorary Degrees and Honorary Membership, reported that they had no names to present for the attention of the Convention, which was accepted.

The Committee on the candidates for the gratuitous course of lectures, reported that the following gentlemen were recommended by the several counties: viz. *New Haven County*, Amos C. Blakeslee; *New London County*, Henry Smith; *Windham County*, Edward A. Smith; *Litchfield County*, Gaylord G. Russell; *Middlesex County*, Samuel H. Catlin; *Tolland County*, Lucius D. Isham.

The vacancies in Hartford and Fairfield counties, were filled by inserting in the former the name of H. A. Collins, and in the latter, the name of Henry Foote.

A resolution prescribing the examination of candidates for the gratuitous course of lectures, was, after various propositions as amendments, laid upon the table, on the ground that there was already sufficient legislation upon the subject.

Des. Wells, Palmer, and Whitcomb, were appointed a Committee on Debentures.

The following officers were then chosen for the year ensuing.

ARCHIBALD WELCH, M. D., *President*.

GEORGE SUMNER, M. D., *Vice President*.

V. M. DOW, M. D., *Treasurer*.

GURDON W. RUSSELL, M. D., *Secretary*.

The vacancies in the Standing Committee were then filled;—in the Committee of Examination, by the election of Richard Warner, M. D., and Alvan Talcott, M. D.

In the Committee to nominate Physician to the Retreat for the Insane, by the election of Hiram Holt, M. D., and Worthington Hooker, M. D.

And in the Committee to nominate Professors in the Medical Institution of Yale College, by the election of William H. Cogswell, M. D., and Alden Skinner, M. D.

On motion of Dr. Beach,

Resolved, That the Secretary be authorized to publish, in a separate pamphlet, the By-Laws of the Society, with resolutions of the Convention, considered in free.

The Committee appointed on the resolution from Hartford county, made the following report, which was, on testing, laid on the table till to-morrow.

The Committee on appropriating the funds of the Society, have considered the subject entrusted to them, and in view of the nature and importance of the same, have decided to present to the Convention the following.

That a Committee of one from a county be appointed to take charge of this subject, and report to the next Convention at length, the opinions and arguments for and against the measure urged by the several local Societies, and that all action on the subject be postponed until that time.

The Committee appointed on the Treasurer's Report, reported as follows, which was laid on the table for the present.

The Committee appointed to examine the Report of the Treasurer, met, examined and accepted of the same.

The causes of the present embarrassed condition of the treasury, are considered to be various; the principal of which, however, result from an indisposition on the part of clerks to avail themselves of legal means for enforcing the payment of taxes; negligence of clerks; and on the part of delinquents, an objection, on the ground that no equivalent was given for the money paid.

The remedy recommended, is to take special pains to render the local Societies interesting and useful to members;—to strike off the names of delinquents, or to sue, as seems to the clerks most conducive to the leading purposes of the Society.

On motion, adjourned to meet at half past eight to-morrow morning.

MAY 11.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee on Debentures made a report, which was laid on the table for further consideration.

Dr. Sumner, from the Committee of Examination, made the following report, which being amended was accepted.

Report of the Committee of Examination.

The Committee of Examination having attended to the duties assigned them, respectfully report, that eighteen young men were examined, of which number twelve received the degree of Doctor of Medicine, and six a license to practice. It was observed that the literary qualifications of the several candidates were more respectable than they have appeared to be on former occasions,—that their professional acquirements were creditable to the institution, and to its pupils, and that the liberty "to teach and practice" was not unworthily bestowed upon any of the candidates.

The attention of this Convention is invited to the question, whether the examination should not hereafter be confined to that class of pupils who by their study and attendance on two courses of lectures, are

entitled to the Doctor's degree. It is thought that the welfare of the public, the interests of the candidates, and the respectability of the profession, would all be promoted by the adoption of such a course.

The annual address to the young men was delivered by Dr. Beckwith, of Litchfield, and a valedictory by Henry S. Williams, a member of the graduating class.

George Sumner, M. D. was appointed to deliver the address to the graduating class in 1849, and H. A. Grant, M. D. was appointed his substitute.

GEORGE SUMNER, Chairman of Committee.

On motion, the subject of Licenses in the above report, was referred to a committee of three, who are to report to the next Convention.

Drs. George Sumner, E. K. Hunt, and William B. Casey, are the Committee.

On motion of the Treasurer, it was

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to confer with the Committee of the Legislature, to advocate the enactment of some legal provision for a more effectual mode of registering in this State, all births, marriages and deaths.

And Drs. Knight, Hooker and Dow were appointed.

Professor Benson from the Committee on the Circular from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, offered the following report, with the accompanying resolutions.

The report was accepted, and the resolutions were adopted.

Whereas, it is ascertained that adulterated and worthless drugs are imported into this country to a very large amount, and that our people are injured in their health and defrauded of their money, by such importations,—therefore

Resolved, That in our opinion, such legislative restriction as will tend to prevent importations of this kind, ought to be adopted, and that we regard the measure suggested by the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, as well adapted to attain this end.

Resolved, That our Senators and Representatives in Congress be requested to use their endeavors to procure the passage of a law appointing inspectors well acquainted with medicines, whose duty it shall be to confiscate to the state such drugs as shall be found to be spurious or worthless, or to take such other measures as they shall deem expedient to secure the end in view.

Resolved, That the Secretary of this Society be instructed to send a copy of these resolutions to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

The report of the Committee on the resolution from Hartford County, was then taken up, and accepted, and Drs. Hunt, Talcott, Barker, North, Middlebrook, Palmer, Gilbert and Skinner, were appointed to present the arguments for and against the measure recommended, to the next Convention.

Subsequently, on motion of Dr. Cogswell, the resolution accepting the report was reconsidered, and the matter was indefinitely postponed.

At a meeting of the Superintendents of Insane Hospitals, lately held in New York, statistics on suicides being represented as desirable, and this subject being referred to Dr. Butler, of the Retreat for the Insane, it was therefore on motion, of Dr. Palmer,

Resolved, That the members of the medical profession in this State, report to Dr. John S. Butler, of Hartford, all cases of suicide that may come under their notice, in the vicinity where they reside, their names, sex, age, cause, and manner.

The Committee on Honorary Degrees and Honorary Membership, made another report, recommending Dr. Joseph P. Converse, of Epsfield, as a candidate for the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Medicine, and he was recommended to the President and Trustees of Yale College accordingly.

The report of the Committee on the Treasurer's Report, was taken up and accepted.

On motion of the Vice President,

Resolved, That the Clerks of the several counties confer with the Fellows of the same, respecting the taxes due from delinquent members, and collect or abate the same, as the Fellows may advise.

Resolved, That a tax of one dollar and a half be laid on each member of the Society.

Dr. Platt's resolution was continued to the next Convention.

The report of the Committee on Debentures was taken up and accepted.

On motion of Dr. Talcott,

Resolved, That the Treasurer be directed, at his discretion, to forward to the Clerks of the several counties, warrants for the collection of the taxes of delinquent members.

A resolution abating the balance due the Treasurer, by William Hutchins, late Clerk of Windham county, was referred to the Fellows of that county, they having power to abate the taxes.

There being no further business, the Convention

Adjourned sine die.

Attest,

GURDON W. RUSSELL, Secretary.

MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

*FELIX PASUALIS,	New York.
JAMES JACKSON,	Boston, Mass.
JOHN C. WARREN,	" "
*SAMUEL L. MITCHELL,	New York.
*DAVID INSICK,	" "
*WRIGHT FOST,	" "
BENJAMIN SILLIMAN,	New Haven.
*GEORGE MCLILLAN,	Philadelphia, Pa.
*JOHN MACKIE,	Providence, R. I.
*CHARLES ELDRIDGE,	East Greenwich, R. I.
THEODORE BOMEYN BECK,	Albany, N. Y.
*JAMES THATCHER,	Flynnville, Mass.
EDWARD DELAFIELD,	New York.
JOHN DELANAYER,	Cincinnati, Ohio.
*WILLIAM P. DEWEES,	Philadelphia, Pa.
*JOSEPH WHITE,	Cherry Valley, N. Y.
JACOB SHELOW,	Boston, Mass.
WALTER CHANNING,	" "
*THEOPHYLUS PHYSICK,	Philadelphia, Pa.
*LEWIS FREEMANN,	U. S. Navy.
DANIEL DRAKE,	Cincinnati, Ohio.
*HENRY MITCHELL,	Norwich, N. Y.
NATHAN BYNO SMITH,	Baltimore, Md.
VALENTINE HOTT,	New York.
*SAMUEL WHITE,	Hudson, N. Y.
REUBEN D. MUSSEY,	Cincinnati, Ohio.
WILLIAM TULLY,	New Haven.
RICHMOND BROWNELL,	Providence, R. I.
WILLIAM BEAUMONT,	U. S. Army.
SAMUEL HENRY JACKSON,	New York.
SAMUEL B. WOODWARD,	Northampton, Mass.
JOHN STEARNS,	New York.
STEPHEN W. WILLIAMS,	Dorchester, Mass.
*HENRY GREEN,	Albany, N. Y.
*GEORGE FROST,	Springfield, Mass.
WILLIAM FAIRER,	New York.
BENJAMIN TICKNOR,	U. S. Navy.
ABRAHAM MARSH,	Albany, N. Y.
AMOS TWITCHELL,	Knox, N. H.
CHARLES A. LEE,	New York.
DAVID S. C. H. SMITH,	Providence, R. I.

ORDINARY MEMBERS.

1

The names of those Members who are exempt from taxation by age, are in Italics; the names of those who have been Presidents of the Society, are in capitals.

HARTFORD COUNTY.

HENRY HOLMES, M. D. Chairman.

A. W. BARROWS, M. D. Clerk.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>HARTFORD, George Sumner, D. S.
 Dodge, Henry Holmes, Samuel B.
 Berkel, George B. Hawley, Gar-
 dan W. Russell, David Crary, P. W.
 Elsworth, Benjamin Rogers, E. K.
 Hunt, John S. Butler, H. A. Grant,
 Mortan, K. Johnson, J. C. Jackson, A.
 W. Barrows, Thomas Minor, M. W.
 Wilson.
 West Hartford, Edward Trues.
 Avon, Alfred Kellogg.
 Berlin, Austin Gridley, Sylvester
 Bulley, E. Brundage, Jr.
 Ave Bristol, Samuel Mast, Lucius
 Woodruff, E. D. Tabcock.
 Bloomfield, John F. Wells.
 Branford, Joseph W. Cook.
 Branford, William Elton, Jr.
 Canaan, Benjamin Canaan, Thomas
 Harris.
 Colchester, Samuel W. Brown, Ros-
 well H. Tilling.
 East Hartford, Eva May, Seth L.
 Child.
 East Windsor, Horace C. Gillette.
 Eastford, Hiram Watson.
 Broad Brook, Marcus L. Fish.
 Wareham Point, Joseph Olmsted.
 Enfield, J. P. Canine, A. L. Spald-
 ing.
 Thompsonville, Stephen G. Bailey.</p> | <p>FAIRHAVEN, Asahel Thompson, E.
 W. Carrington, Chemistry House.
 Plainville, G. A. Hardy.
 Chambersville, ——— Rockwell.
 Glastonbury, Ralph Carter.
 South Glastonbury, Russell Hawley,
 Lemon J. Andrus.
 Eastbury, Silas Rocking.
 Glastonbury, James Case, Joseph F. Jen-
 ett.
 North Granby, Josiah C. Bakewell, J.
 F. Ething.
 East Granby, Chester Hamlin.
 West Granby, Justin D. Wilson.
 Mansfield, William C. Williams,
 William Scott.
 Rocky Hill, Asahel W. Burrows.
 Somers, Frederick A. White.
 Terryville, Geo. W. Suedel, Charles
 W. Esqin.
 Simsbury, John S. Barnes, Fred-
 erick A. Hart.
 Simsbury, Sidney Rockwell,
 William Wood.
 Simsbury, Asahel L. Russell, Samuel
 E. Low, Arctas Boring.
 Windsorville, A. E. H. F. A. L. D.
 WELCH, C. F. Cook.
 Windsor, William S. Fenton, Thom-
 as Kil.
 Windsor Locks, Samuel W. Skinner.
 Popponunk, Oliver E. Griggs.</p> |
|---|---|

NEW HAVEN COUNTY.

E. H. CATLIN, M. D., Chairman.

D. L. BAGGETT, M. D., Clerk.

NEW HAVEN, John Almon, Ed. Jew,
T. P. Root, Jonathan Knight, Samuel
Frederickson, V. M. Dow, A. S.
Henson, Charles Becker, H. B. Per-
ney, Nathan E. Jew, E. H. Bishop,
D. H. Moore, C. D. North, J. A. Tol-
son, P. T. Miller, L. A. Thomas,
Lars. Iron, Hays A. Jenson, J. T.
Botsford, H. L. Baggett, George O.
Sumner, D. A. Taylor, Henry Branson,
E. W. Foster, E. A. Park, S. W. Tay-
lor, Jr., Jas. O'Sullivan, T. B. Deere,
Jr., E. F. Hanson, Henry Church.
Westville, Samuel Lloyd.
Fair Haven, C. S. Thompson, J. B.
Bocher, W. M. White.
FARMINGTON, Asa C. Woodward.
BRIDGEPORT, William L. Lee.
CHESHAM, A. J. Briggs, Nelsoniah
Evins.
DENVY, W. J. Whiting.
JANESVILLE, Samuel P. Church.
Broomfield, Andrew Berdalen.
Hambleyville, Albert Stoddard,
Sheldon C. Johnson, John Knudsen,
Thomas Stoddard.

EAST HAVEN, Eric Persson.
Greenport, Joel Gamble, Elsie Hatch-
ison, Alvin Talcott.
MADISON, Reynolds Webb.
Middletown, Gustaf Barlow.
West Meriden, S. H. Cullen.
Yaleville, C. E. McCarty.
MIDDLETOWN,
Middletown, Andrew French, Hall Allen,
L. N. Boudley.
NARRAGANSETT, J. D. Meers, Timothy
Langdon.
NORTH BRANFORD, Sheldon Boudley.
SOUTH HAVEN, James Moody, C. B.
Foster.
OCEANO, Noah Stone, John Loughey.
SOUTHBRIDGE, A. B. Smith.
South Willimantic, N. C. Baldwin.
WALLINGFORD, Lyman Parker, Wm.
Howard.
WATERBURY, Joseph Porter, Daniel
Porter, Jr., M. C. Loomisworth, G.
L. Platt, W. W. Bolman.
WOODBRIDGE, Isaac Goodell, Andrew
Cook.
Worcester, Henry Lyngton.

NEW LONDON COUNTY.

ALBERT DOWNER, M. D., Chairman.

JEREMIAH KING, M. D., Clerk.

NEW LONDON, Archibald Meers, Dyer
T. Brannett, Nathaniel S. Perkins,
James Morgan, Isaac G. Foster, Wm.
W. Miner, Charles E. Ayres, James
Rogers, Seth Smith, ———— Omer, ————
Francis, ———— Omerick.
NORWICH, Richard P. Tracy, Westing-
ton Hooker, Clarence Ferguson, Eli-
jah Dyer, Jr., Halsey Phoenix, Ben-
jamin T. Hobb, Jonathan W. Hobb,
H. P. Barker, Asahel E. Baker, John
B. Ford, Robert A. Marquand, Jer-
emiah King, Edwin Bentley.
ROCKFORD, Samuel Johnson.
COLUMBIANA, Karlson W. Parsons,
Frederick Morgan, James R. Dow.
EAST LYME, John Z. Smith, Annie P.
Perkins.
FRANKFORD, Asahel Woodward.
GREENSBORO,
Jewett City, Lucius Tyler, Alonzo
Fuller.
Greenville, Joseph Durfee.
Petersville, John O. Miner, Eliza F.
Cook.

LEWISTON, Joseph Gamble, Elsie Hatch-
ison, Alvin Talcott.
LEEDS, Fred, Rufus W. Mathews.
LYONS, Vase Smith, ———— Rogers.
LYNN, Richard Noyes, John Noyes,
Nathaniel P. Bennett.
Middletown, John C. M. Rockway.
Plymouth, Wm. W. J. Warren.
Merrillville, Ephraim Palmer, Saml.
Maynard.
COLUMBIANA, Joseph E. Gay, John C.
Baker, Benjamin F. Bradford.
Noyes, Noyes, Thomas P. Wat-
son, Alvin Gray.
Plymouth, Albert Downer, Elmer B.
Downer.
Plymouth, H. W. Cook.
Salem, John T. Fuller, William A.
Baker.
STONINGTON, Wm. Hyde, George E.
Palmer, Wm. Hyde, Jr., Cyrus Mason.
Myrtle, Mason Manning.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY.

DANIEL COMSTOCK, M. D., Chairman.

SAMUEL BAKER, M. D., Clerk.

Fairville, Jeremiah T. Denison, S. P.	New Canaan, Samuel S. Noyes, Lewis Richards.
F. R. Ten Broeck.	Newtown, Cyrus H. Booth, E. Irwin, George Johnson.
Greenfield, Ralph Hinkley.	Northam, John A. McLean, E. Russell, Jos. Gregory.
Southport, Justin Sherwood.	Ratting, Charles Graham.
Eastport, Samuel Beach, H. H. Nash, William L. Watson, Frederick Johnson, ——— Barrett.	Stamford, Chas. Ayres, N. D. Haight, Robert Lockwood.
Baconbridge, Noah A. Leary, A. L. Williams.	Stratford, William T. Shelton, John Gooding.
Danbury, Daniel Comstock, R. B. Boland, E. P. Bennett.	Trumbull, ELIJAH MIDDLEBURY, Stephen Middlebury, George Fenn, E. B. Middlebury.
Griff, H. N. Bennett.	Westport, George Hickman, J. Jones.
Darien, Warren Fremont.	Windsor, Seymour Neal.
Elston, Lloyd Sperry, James Baldwin.	
Hextington, James H. Swanson.	
Maryon, George Hawley, Salina H. Hall.	

WINDHAM COUNTY.

LORENZO MANTY, M. D., Chairman.

JAMES B. WHITCOMB, M. D., Clerk.

Brooklyn, James E. Whitcomb, Daniel M. Hale, William Woodbridge.	Plainfield, Central P. H. Morse, Bassett, William H. Campbell, Elijah Baldwin, Jr.
Avon, John H. Simmons.	Porter, Hiram Holt, Lewis Williams.
Eastford, Rodolph Seckman.	Scituate, Nathan E. Pike.
Canterbury, Elijah Baldwin, Asaph Palmer.	Tamworth, Samuel Bowen.
Chaplin, Davis Wither.	Vernon, Harvey Campbell.
Hampton, Ezra Hughes.	Windsor, Chester Hunt, Elmer Loomis, Dr. Will H. Johnson.
Knoxville, Justin Hammond.	Windsor, William Water, John Hill, Jr.
North Killingly, Thomas H. Foxham.	Windsor, Cyrus B. Boudley.
South Killingly, Daniel A. Henry.	Windsor, Noah, Asa Wither.
West Killingly, David E. Hall, Samuel Bucklin.	South Windham, Lorenzo May.
Windsorville, Henry W. Hough, Thomas W. Peet.	West Windham, Milton Bradford, Charles R. Rogers.
Danville, Charles W. Fuller.	
Plainfield, William H. Gaywell.	

LITCHFIELD COUNTY.

JOHNSON C. HATCH, M. D., Chairman.

A. M. HEALEY, M. D., Clerk.

Litchfield, WILLIAM HUEL, Samuel Reed, J. G. Beckwith, H. M. Winslow, George Newman.	Sandwich, F. E. Graham.
South Farms, Garry H. Mize, David E. Burnick.	Sandwich, Hiram Johnson.
	Canaan, Albert A. Wright, George Allen.

South Canaan, John A. Gillett.
 CORNWALL, FORTIS B. North.
 West Cornwall, Samuel W. Gold.
 I. E. Smith.
 North Cornwell, John Scovell.
 COCKERBROOK.
Gairdner's Bridge, Gamaliel H. St. John.
 GOWEN, A. M. Huxley.
 HARTINGTON, E. J. Woodward.
 KENT, *Wells Roadside*, Johnson C. Hatch, Elsie Holmes.
 NEW HARTFORD, North, Louis North.
 NEW MILFORD, Adel Hilborn, Wm. B. Lacy, George O. Taylor.
 NORTON, Benjamin Welch, William W. Welch, W. Cooke.
 PAYMOUTH, Samuel T. Salisbury.

Plymouth Bayview, William Woodruff.
 RICHMOND, Myron Downes.
 SALTWATER, G. Plunk, W. E. Bailey.
 LAKESIDE, Benjamin Welch, Jr.
 SHARON, Ralph Denney, Chas. H. Ford.
 WALCOTTIDE, Ernest Bancroft, O. E. Freeman.
 WARREN, Norman Lyman.
 WINDSOR, Mary Price.
 WASHINGTON, E. M. Fowler.
 NEW FREEDOM, Sidney H. Lyman, Edward P. Lyman.
 WINCHESTER, Centre, James Welch.
 WINDSOR, P. O., Graham Lee, John L. Wakefield.
 WOODBURY, *Summit*, Bernethy, Chas. H. Webb.
 TERRYVILLE, Charles Elyington.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY.

ASA M. BOLT, M. D., Chairman.

G. C. H. GILBERT, M. D., Clerk.

MIDDLETOWN, Richard Warner, Joseph Barrett, Charles Woodward, William E. Camp, David Harrison, Hamilton Brewer, Franklin Woodruff.
 CHATHAM, Francis G. Edgerth.
 Middle Haddam, Albert B. Worthington.
 CHERRY, Andrew Pratt.
 DURHAM, Benjamin F. Fowler.
 EAST HADDAM, Am. M. Holt, Datus Williams, Elsie B. Nye.

HADDAM, Jos. Hutchinson.
 HIGGANS, William H. Tremaine.
 KINGSFORD, Rufus Turner.
 PORTLAND, George O. Judd, Stephen A. Fuller, G. C. H. Gilbert.
 SAYBROOK, Asa H. King.
 East, Alexander H. Bough, Frederick W. Shepard.
 Deep River, Rufus Baker.
 WATKINS, Horace Burr.

TOLLAND COUNTY.

ABRAHAM LADD, M. D., Chairman.

GILBERT B. PRATT, M. D., Clerk.

TOLLAND, Abijah Ladd, Oliver K. Adams, Gilbert H. Freeman.
 ANDOVER, Adolph White.
 BARTON, Orris Hunt, Charles F. Sumner.
 CHATHAM, Harmon McIntosh.
 COVENTRY, North, Elmer Hunt.
 South Coventry, Timothy Huxford.
 ELLINGTON, Allen Hyde, J. H. Manning.
 HERRIN, JOHN S. PETERS, Orris C. White.

MANCHESTER, North, Norman Brigham, Wm. H. Richardson, Albert Morrison.
 South Manchester, Earl Sayre.
 SUMNER, Oscar Wood, Erasmus E. Hamilton, William B. Woods.
 STRATTON, East, William N. Clark, Elmer S. Debo.
 STAFFORD, West, Joshua C. Budgett.
 ULMER, Emerson Lindsay.
 VERNON, Nathaniel Huxford, Alden Shiner, C. E. Hammond.
 ROCKVILLE, Benjamin M. Cummings.
 WILLINGTON, Francis L. Dickinson.

SUMMARY OF ORDINARY MEMBERS.

	Traded.	Not traded.	Total.
Hartford County,	72	8	80
New Haven County,	77	8	85
New London County,	76	7	83
Fairfield County,	37	4	41
Litchfield County,	39	5	44
Windham County,	35	2	37
Middlesex County,	25	0	25
Tolland County,	20	0	20
Total,	320	27	347

NUMBER OF MEMBERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS.

	1792	1808	1824	1840
Hartford County,	48	51	65	75
New Haven County,	47	52	68	75
New London County,	—	50	45	65
Windham County,	22	30	33	37
Fairfield County,	35	34	44	43
Litchfield County,	31	30	32	47
Middlesex County,	22	30	39	37
Tolland County,	23	33	24	33
Total,	205	280	306	365

DUTIES OF CLERKS.

To warn the County Meetings.

To record the proceedings of the County Meetings.

To collect the taxes, and pay the same to the Treasurer.

To transmit to the Secretary a list of the elected Fellows, and the person recommended as a candidate for a posthumous review of lectures, immediately after the County meetings, for publication.

To make certificates of Fellowship, to be transmitted by the Secretary, on or before the first day of the Convention.

To transmit duplicate lists of the Members of the Society, to the Secretary and Treasurer, on or before the first day of the Convention, on the penalty of five dollars for each neglect.

To return to the Treasurer the names of delinquent Members of the Society.

DISSERTATIONS READ IN CONVENTIONS.

1794. Dr. S. H. P. Lee, on Autumnal Elixirs Fever.
 " Dr. Gideon Shepherd, on the Properties of Opium.
1795. Dr. F. P. Oviere, on the Preparations of Antimony.
 " Dr. Thaddeus Betts, on the different species of Colic.
1796. Dr. F. P. Oviere, on the Castigation of Yellow Fever.
 " Dr. S. H. P. Lee, on Cyanusis Tomatilis.
 " Dr. Lewis Collins, on the most eligible mode of increasing Medical Knowledge in this State.
 " Dr. Gideon Shepherd, on the same subject.
1798. Dr. Samuel Hopkins, case of Bilious Concretion.
 " Dr. Jared Potter, " An Essay."
1799. Dr. Thaddeus Clark, a Dissertation.
1800. Dr. Nathaniel Dwight, on Lascy.
1804. Dr. Samuel Willard, on the Stafford Mineral Waters.
1817. Dr. W. R. Fowler, on the deleterious effects of Ardent Spirits.
1818. Dr. William Buel, on Ergot.
1820. Dr. Thomas Miner, on Typhus Fever.
1821. Dr. Samuel Rockwell, on Uterine Hemorrhage.
1822. Dr. William Tully, on the Yellow Fever at Middleboro.
1823. Dr. Dyer T. Brainerd.
1827. Dr. Samuel B. Woodward, on the Biography of the Physicians of the State.
1829. Dr. George Sumner, on Extra-uterine Conception.
1830. Dr. Charles Hooker, on Diseases of the Ear.
1835. Dr. Benjamin Welch, Jr., on the Vitality of the Blood.
1836. Dr. E. H. Bishop, on the influence of Moral Emotions on Disease.
1837. Dr. Archibald Welch, on Scarlet Fever.
1838. Dr. Isaac G. Porter, on the disease commonly denominated Spinal Irritation.
1839. Dr. Henry Bronson, on the Mental qualifications necessary to a Physician.
1840. Dr. Richard Warner, on the advantages of prompt and efficient practice in Acute Diseases.
1841. Dr. Amariah Brigham, on Insanity as a subject of Medical Jurisprudence.
1842. Dr. Charles Woodward, on Uterine Irritation.
1843. Dr. Pinckney W. Ellsworth, on Phlebitis.
1844. Dr. Worthington Hooker, on the respect due to the Medical Profession, and the reasons that it is not awarded by the community.
1845. Dr. Nathan B. Ives, on Laryngismus Stridulus.
1846. Dr. Theodore Sill, Observations on Typhus Fever.
1847. Dr. E. K. Hart, on the Importance of a Medical Organization, and the advantages resulting from it.
1848. Dr. B. F. Barker, Remarks on some forms of disease of the Cervix Uteri.

REMARKS
ON
SOME FORMS OF DISEASE
OF THE
CERVIX UTERI.

BY
B. FORDYCE BARKER, M. D.



MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN:

IN offering for your consideration a few observations on some forms of non-malignant disease of the cervix uteri, I hope to call the attention of the medical practitioners of this state to a class of diseases, the pathology and appropriate treatment of which, have been, until very recently, entirely misunderstood. From their very great frequency, and their vast importance as affecting the comfort and happiness, not only of the individual suffering, but that of her family and friends, this class of diseases merits the most attentive study, the most patient and careful investigation. The progress which has been made in physical diagnosis and accurate pathological knowledge, during the last half century, is truly wonderful. At the present day, almost every physician avails himself, (or professes to,) of the important, I may say indispensable aid furnished by auscultation and percussion in diagnosing disease of the lungs and heart. Even the non-professional public have become so fully alive to the great advantages to be gained by these methods of examination, that the quack and the ignorant are compelled to thump the chest and apply the stethoscope in order to retain the confidence of their deluded victims. Equally great have been the improvements made in the diagnosis of uterine disease and its true pathology. But the profession as a class, both in this country and in Great Britain, have not been equally ready to reap for themselves, or to confer upon their patients, the advantages to be gained from these new discoveries. Even practitioners who are familiar by their reading, with the progress which has been made in uterine pathology, have been restrained by an almost criminal fastidiousness and a perverted sense of delicacy, from using the necessary means of exploration, and as a natural consequence, when their services are sought for, on account of a leucorrhœa, or menorrhagia, or a prolapsus, they have contented themselves with the old routine of tonics, astringents, injections, or worse yet, have ordered an abdominal supporter, or applied a pessary. Sometimes the poor patient has been, undoubtedly, benefited by even this routine practice; some-

times beneficent nature has taken the case into her own hands, and effected a cure, but more generally the unhappy sufferer has been compelled to drag out a patient endurance, years of misery and weakness, worn down by a leucorrhœal discharge, or a uterine hemorrhage, wretched in body and in mind; pœstic, irritable and hysterical, a burthen to herself and a "thorn in the flesh" to her immediate relatives and friends, and in many, very many cases, bitterly disappointing family hopes in wanting the blissful anticipations of a mother's joys, on account of obstinate sterility, or oft repeated abortions. This is no fancy sketch, but many such, I have no doubt, are within the knowledge of every medical man engaged in active practice, in this state. All writers, who have made this class of diseases a subject of special investigation, speak of their very great frequency. It has been supposed that nearly one-half of the married females suffer to a greater or less degree from some form of uterine disease.

I propose to speak of some forms which from my own experience, I am satisfied are of frequent occurrence with us, but which are hardly alluded to in our systematic works on female diseases. I would call your attention first to *Granulations of the Cervix-uteri*. I am not aware of any work in the English language, which gives a description, sufficiently full or accurate for the practitioner to recognize or understand this affection. In the excellent work of Dr. Churchill, there is a meagre and imperfect sketch of it. Dunglison, (*Practice of Medicine*), devotes one-third of a page to it as a sequel of acute and chronic inflammation of the uterus. It is not mentioned by Ashwell or Lever. In the work by Colombat de L'Isère, (translated by Dr. Meigs,) there is a very brief, imperfect and erroneous description of it, evidently hastily copied from Boivin and Duges, and confounded with inflammatory affections of the cervix. It was first, as I think correctly described by M. Boivin, (*Mémoires de l'utérus par Boivin et Duges*.) It is briefly alluded to by Duparcque, but more fully described in the *Bibliothèque du Médecin-Praticien*. I hope to be pardoned for saying that it seems to me, all the writers above referred to have been in error as to the true pathology of this affection. I heard a most excellent clinique on the subject by M. Chomel, at the Hotel

Dieu, and have often seen this form of disease, both in the Pitié Hospitals, and in private practice within the last two years and a half.

Granulations of the cervix uteri seem to consist of an hypertrophy of the mucous membrane, or of the numerous follicles which exist in the thickness of this membrane, more abundant in the uterine orifice than every where else. The French in describing it, have used the term *frambesie* from the little hard fleshy elevations on the os linca, resembling the distinct elevations of the raspberry. So also, some of them speak of it as a granular or raspberry-like inflammation. (Inflammation *granuleuse* or *framboisée*.) But this is incorrect; it is not an inflammation but an affection *sui generis*, peculiar to this organ. The only part of the system in which analogous granulations are found, is the pharynx, as the pharynx alone possesses the same follicular disposition. Neither is it, as some have supposed, a result of inflammation. Inflammations have a period of increase, a period of *status quo*, and a period of decrease, to which succeeds the cure. Affections which do not present these three periods, may it is true offer inflammatory symptoms, but they are not veritable inflammations. Inflammations are those diseases which exciting agents exasperate, antiphlogistic means moderate. But this disease has not this character; antiphlogistics do nothing for it. Again the terms, granulous excoriations, granulous ulcerations, have been employed to designate this disease, but they are equally improper. In ulceration there is always loss of substance more or less extensive. But in the granulated state of the neck of the uterus, there is always a relief, a projection, an increase of substance; the prominence is perfectly appreciable to the touch. Furthermore, the granulous state is accompanied by an excretion of glutinous, tenacious, semi-transparent, or sometimes slightly opaque and puriform mucus. Ulcerations on the contrary, present the veritable pus at the surface without mixture of mucus of any sort. Granulations of the cervix uteri have also, no doubt, been confounded with carcinoma, but they have nothing in common with cancer. Carcinoma uteri commences by the development of globulous tumors upon the neck, which the touch may signalize, but which frequently cannot be seen by the speculum.

The granulations, on the contrary, commence in the interior of the neck, and extend by degrees from within to without. Carcinomatous tumours commence externally, going from without to within. Chenev^{*} has never known but one female, who commenced by having granulations, in whom it degenerated into cancer.

Causes. These are so very obscure, that it is very difficult, not to say impossible, to determine them. Some have said that abuse of venereal pleasure, the repeated contact of the male member was one of the most frequent. But women of pleasure are not more subject to it than other women. Those who have had children present this affection more frequently, but it often occurs in those who have never borne children. So one may consider pregnancy as a predisposing, but not as an exciting cause. There is one circumstance which the French pathologists have found frequently allied to the existence of these granulations, that is anterior chronic affections of the skin. A great number of patients in whom these granulations are found, have been formerly affected with those diseases of the skin, confounded under the name of tetter. This fact has been observed at the Hospital St. Louis, where cutaneous diseases are specially treated. They have found that herpetic affections have preceded the development of uterine granulations in women; in men, granulations of the pharynx, which have been mentioned above as having some analogy with granulations of the neck of the uterus. So it would not be too much to suppose, that there exists between them, something in common, having the relation of cause and effect.

Symptoms. The existence of this disease can only be absolutely recognized with the sight, by the aid of the speculum and by the touch. But there are various functional symptoms which would draw the attention of the observing physician to the uterus. There are some derangements in the functions of this organ, some painful sensations in the hypogastric or lumbar region, or in the groin, pains more or less severe in the side, (most commonly, I have observed, under the false ribs in the left side,) leucorrhœa more or less abundant, a derangement of

^{*} Mém. Nées.

the menstrual evacuations, so that the physician is induced to examine the genital organs. There is no heat of the parts, no exaltation of the sensibility. Although there is pain in the parts above-mentioned, yet rarely is the suffering augmented by cotton, or by the touch. The leucorrhœal discharge is sometimes moderate in quantity, consisting of a thick, tenacious, semi-transparent mucus, resembling the white of an egg, a little beat up. In other and perhaps a majority of these cases, the discharge of albuminous mucus is very abundant, running down the thighs at times when the patient walks, producing a sensation of chilliness. Hemorrhages are very common in this affection, and they may consist either in an abnormal augmentation of the menstrual flux, or in a proper hemorrhage between the menstrual periods. The debility and emaciation resulting from the menorrhagia are perhaps the most frequent cause of the patient's seeking medical aid, unless at an earlier period, she has been led by the old women learned in these matters, to believe that the vague pains in the groins and lumbar regions, and the dragging sensation at the lower part of the abdomen are caused by falling of the womb.

There is another symptom so common as to merit attention, that is, sensations or pains at the pit of the stomach, which patients frequently describe as "pulling or dragging of the stomach." These sensations, as remarked by Chenevix,^{*} have this important particular for their diagnosis: as they are sympathetic with the morbid state of the uterus, the presence of aliment in the stomach effects no change in them; while in pains of the stomach, which are idiopathic, the presence of aliment is not at all indifferent. Another phenomenon which coincides frequently with this disposition of the cervix uteri, is the absence of conception, a sort of accidental or symptomatic sterility. It is said that this is not a constant phenomenon, but that there are some who become pregnant not only during the course of the disease, but also during the course of the treatment; but nevertheless in a great majority of cases, there is sterility, and in examining with the utmost care, nothing is found in the uterus itself which explains the absence of conception. The question then arises whether these granulations have not something to do with the sterility. When the mucous membrane, which covers the in-

^{*} 3455, No. 40.

ternal surface of the orifice, is tumefied, this tumefaction diminishes by so much, the diameter of the orifice, and may oppose the penetration of the semen into the cavity of the organ. Then the viscous, glutinous character of the discharge from this orifice, its physical properties are opposed to fecundation, as the mucus is often so tenacious that it is difficult to raise it with the speculum forceps. Furthermore, it has been remarked by several observers, that women who have been married several years, and who were found to be affected with this disease, have become enucleate after having been subjected to the appropriate treatment, followed by a cure. These such instances have occurred in my own practice, two of whom are now happy mothers, and the third soon hopes to be.

Diagnosis. This is not usually difficult if we resort to the touch, and the aid of the speculum. By the touch we find a portion of the mucous membrane of the cervix uteri feeling softer than usual, something like velvet; and in this portion the granulations are very distinct, as if millet seeds were imbedded in the mucous membrane. Sometimes they attain a size nearly as large as a small pea. The surrounding healthy portion feels smooth, firm, and polished. As this disease always preserves the same disposition, commencing at the centre of the orifice as the point of departure, and extending towards the external circumference of the orifice as it progresses, we shall invariably find the softening and the granular elevations near the centre of the orifice, while the external circumference will retain its normal firmness and smoothness. I believe that this affection never implicates the whole of the cervix. By the touch alone we can then recognize this affection, but as the speculum is absolutely essential to its appropriate treatment, we can then avail ourselves of its important aid in confirming our diagnosis. Indeed, without the speculum, we can neither limit nor define its extent; and even the existence of this state was entirely unknown previous to the invention of the speculum, which permitted one to see a very marked change between the portion around the orifice, and the external circumference. The latter offers a pale rose tint, like that of the healthy mucous membrane of the mouth; while, on the contrary, the diseased portion near the orifice, is of a reddish violet color, with the unequal gran-

lated surface very apparent. This is sometimes seen within the orifice itself, extending by degrees to the neighboring parts. Its progressive development is not constantly the same. Sometimes it extends only to one lip, sometimes to both. Its form also is very variable. So then, the two pathognomonic signs of granulation of the cervix uteri are: redness, and a granulated, unequal surface, appreciable both to the touch, and to the sight. It happens frequently that when the speculum is introduced, one can distinguish but imperfectly the spots of which we have spoken, because a certain quantity of the mucus covers the neck and conceals the granulations. It is necessary then to wipe it away by means of long straight-handled forceps, with a dossil of lint or cotton; and this should be sufficiently large to accomplish the object quickly, and sufficiently soft not to wound the neck of the uterus. It is not always easy to wipe from the neck the mucosities that cover it, they are so viscous, thready, and adherent. By touching with the nitrate of silver, an artificial coagulation is produced, rendering their removal easy.

Treatment. General or constitutional measures exert no influence over this disease; and, as has been remarked above, antiphlogistics are of no avail. Of all therapeutic means, cauterization is the only one which has been employed with success. This should always be effected by substances of medium energy; as, when these are used, the physician can always see the diseased part in its normal aspect, and natural condition. Jobert de Lamballe, at the Hôpital St. Louis, generally makes use of the hot iron, the actual cautery; Lostranc the acid nitrate of mercury; but Choiseul and others prefer the nitrate of silver in the solid state; and it has this advantage—that we are enabled to touch the projecting portions first with the point of the caustic. It has been objected to the nitrate of silver, that in mixing with the vaginal mucosities, it determines a discharge which turns the linen black when suppuration of the eschars takes place, and that it sometimes produces a little discharge of blood. But this sanguinolent discharge is entirely insignificant and without value. Some have recommended injections after the cauterizations, to raise the superfluity of the caustics; but this method is bad, instead of which, we should very gently wipe it off with the dossil of lint. The cauteriza-

tions should be repeated a great number of times, or, at least, until the granular surface has entirely resumed its normal aspect. The day one practices cauterization, the patient should remain some time in the horizontal position, in absolute repose. This may be repeated every sixth or eighth day, unless, from the effects of the disease and the treatment, the patient becomes so nervous and irritable, as to make a longer delay necessary. During the whole period of treatment, such means should be used as the state of the general system may demand.

I would next ask your attention to the subject of Inflammation, Ulceration and Induration of the cervix uteri. Recent investigations have proved that this class of affections are exceedingly common, and that they are the cause, in a large majority of cases, of the various functional derangements, as menorrhagia, dysmenorrhœa, leucorrhœa, prolapsus uteri, &c., which have usually been studied and treated as distinct diseases. There is, probably, no branch of pathology which has been so little understood, no class of diseases which have been so badly treated. Every practitioner is aware of the extreme prevalence of the functional disorders above-mentioned, and of their intractable character under the ordinary routine of treatment. A recent writer of ability, (Whitehead) believes that scarcely less than one half of all married women between the age of twenty and forty-five, are constantly suffering under the influence of uterine disease, and his researches have demonstrated that besides these functional disorders, it is the most frequent cause of sterility and abortion. I shall endeavor to give a résumé of the present state of our knowledge of these affections of the cervix, for which we are indebted principally, to the labors of Bocca and Duges, Duparcque, Lefranc, Emery, Jobert de Lambelle and Costille, in France; Bennett, Montgomery, Kennedy and Whitehead in Great Britain.

Inflammation of the cervix, with its sequelæ, ulceration and induration, may occur in the virgin and in the married, who have not borne children, but it is much more frequent in those who have borne children. The character of the disease is essentially the same in the three classes, arising from similar causes, producing similar symptoms, and requiring similar treatment in all. I have had no experience in the disease occurring

in virgins. I will only say in regard to it, that Dr. Bennet has found it the most frequent cause of the severe dysmenorrhœa and inveterate leucorrhœa, connected with great general debility and prostration, which occur occasionally in the virgin female; and that from the increased volume and weight of the cervix, a partial prolapsus is sometimes produced, as in the married female, the treatment of which by pessaries, is not only of no benefit, but productive, oftentimes, of the most disastrous results.

Causes. In brief, the most frequent causes of this disease, are supposed to be labor and abortion. To these may be added, sudden suppression of the menses, or of the lochia, the irritation arising from sexual congress, or produced by the use of pessaries, epitheloid inflammation of the vagina propagated to the os, tumor, and metritis localising under a chronic form in the cervix.

Symptoms. I will mention only those which may be regarded as characteristic of this disease, omitting entirely those which occur as common with other local inflammations. Painful and difficult menstruation combined with a permanent leucorrhœal discharge, may be regarded as almost pathognomonic of this affection. Dysmenorrhœa alone may exist without disease of the cervix. There are some who from a peculiar organism, suffer pain during each catamenial period from the first appearance of this function, and this may arise from mechanical obstruction or from a neuralgic condition, developed by the uterine excitement which exists during menstruation. The previous uterine history of the patient should then be carefully learned, and if it is found that the menstruation became painful and difficult, *for the first time*, after a sudden suppression of the menses, or after marriage, or after labor or an abortion, we have strong presumptive evidence that inflammatory disease of the cervix is the cause, and this diagnosis is confirmed if the dysmenorrhœa be accompanied by a constant leucorrhœal discharge. The absence of all leucorrhœal discharge does not positively prove that there is not inflammatory ulceration and induration of the cervix, because the secretion from the ulcerated surface may be so small in quantity, that the surrounding tissues may completely absorb it, so that no discharge is observed. Many females have a leucorrhœal discharge two or three days previous

to the menstrual discharge, and also two or three days afterwards, it being entirely absent in the intermediate periods, and this may be regarded as their normal state. But if there is a constant, white, starch-like or yellow vaginal discharge, and this is associated with dysmenorrhea, continuing through the whole menstrual period, we may be nearly certain that this disease of the cervix exists. The menstruation may be scanty under these circumstances, or it may be profuse, constituting a menorrhagia. The patient ordinarily suffers from a constant "aching pain" in the hypogastric, inguinal and lumbar regions. The pain is usually increased by pressure made just above the pubis, but relieved by pressure in the inguinal regions. But this is not always the case, as there is sometimes very great tenderness over the whole of the lower part of the abdomen. If the disease has been of long standing, the patient suffers from "beating and throbbing" in the back, and sometimes excruciating pain directly over the coccyx. The digestive organs become deranged, there is a bad taste in the mouth, a coated and faldy tongue. Not infrequently, pulmonary symptoms appear, attracting more attention both from the physician and the patient than those which indicate the real cause of her ill health. In many, the moral nature is remarkably changed, the patient becoming capricious and unreasonable, peevish and despondent, and tortured by a thousand nervous symptoms. The hysterical phenomena are ordinarily very much aggravated during the menstrual period, occasionally inducing cramps and convulsions. When the disease has become inveterate, the sense of weight and bearing down in the pelvis, induces the patient and oftentimes her medical attendant to believe, that she has prolapsus uteri, and an abdominal supporter or a pessary is applied. While I regard these troublesome and inconvenient appliances as absurd and unphilosophical in all cases, and productive of positive injury in many, yet I have no doubt that the abdominal supporter, for example, often relieves the patient from the pains over the pubis, in the groins and in the back, by its pressure upon the integuments and the uterine ligaments, thus interrupting the communication between the uterine and the spinal nerves distributed to the surrounding viscera. But it never cures, it only conceals.

Although the symptoms above enumerated, indicate with a great degree of probability, the disease of the cervix now under consideration, yet we must resort to the touch and to the speculum, for absolute and positive proof of its existence. By the touch, we easily recognize the increased size and density of the cervix, and the absence of the unctuous, greasy feel of the os. If inflammation of the cervix exists without ulceration, the mucous membrane will feel smooth and equal, and the tissue of the cervix will be found more elastic than when in its normal condition. The sensation produced by the ulcerated surface has been compared to that of velvet, and if the tissue beneath be indurated, to that of velvet covering any hard substance, as a table for example. Sometimes fissures are distinctly felt subdividing the cervix into lobules, the tubercles of the older writers. The cervix is found lower down in the pelvis than natural, constituting a greater or less degree of *prolapsus*, and generally directed backwards towards the concavity of the sacrum. From the induration which exists in some cases, one might be led to suspect a cancerous deposit, but the error will be corrected if the history of the case is carefully sought for, and by observing the freedom of the vagina at its union with the neck, and the movability of the uterus within the pelvic cavity, which is not the case in cancer. The os uteri is unusually more or less open, sometimes admitting with ease the first phallus. The presence or absence of pain from the touch cannot, I think, be regarded as a means of diagnosis.

On examining with the speculum, there is always seen more or less mucopurulent matter around and covering the os. On removing this with a dossil of lint, the tumefied cervix is seen, sometimes so much enlarged, that both lips cannot enter at the same time the speculum. "When inflamed, the tumefied cervix presents a more or less intense red, glistening hue, instead of the pale, dull whitish color, which is natural to it."—(Bernet.) If ulceration exists, the ulcerated surface may offer all the varieties of appearance, common to suppurating surfaces in other parts of the body, from a slight abrasion, to the large fleshy bleeding granulations. From the different appearances which these ulcers present, some have described the granular ulcer, the fissured ulcer, the varicose ulcer, the "cock's-comb gran-

ulation,"—(Kennedy, Dublin Quar. Journ. of Medical Science,) &c.; but these divisions seem to me, to have no practical value except as facilitating description. The character and treatment are essentially the same, varied only as the discriminating, well read physician, would vary it on general principles.

Treatment. As my design in this dissertation is simply to call the attention of the profession in this State to this important class of diseases, not to arrogate to myself the office of a teacher, I shall mention in the briefest manner, the treatment which I believe to be inculcated by the best authorities, and by which I have been governed in my own practice, omitting entirely all discussion of the various novelties now proposed in Europe. If there is simply congestive engorgement or acute inflammation of the cervix uteri, leeches, applied by means of the cylinder speculum to the diseased part, constitute the most essential part of the treatment. Even one application of a half dozen of leeches, I have known to produce a wonderful change in the general condition of the patient. The leeches may be encouraged to bleed, by a continued irrigation of the cervix, with as warm water as can be borne, and this may be accomplished either by the syphon proposed by Dr. Kennedy, or by the ordinary self-injecting apparatus now in so common use. The patient should preserve as much as possible the recumbent posture, for several days after the application of the leeches. Lying in the warm bath, if practicable, for an hour or more every day, is, I think, of very great service. Counter irritations, as Granville's lotion, sinapisms, &c., applied over the pubis, often seems productive of great relief. If to the above be added a saline purgative every other day, and colchicum and camphor every few hours in the intermediate period, I think a cure will ordinarily be effected in a very short period. If the disease of the cervix has assumed the chronic form of ulceration and induration, cauterization constitutes the most essential part of the treatment. For this purpose the nitrate of silver, the acid nitrate of mercury, the potassa fusa, the Vienna paste, and the actual cautery have been used. Without entering into any discussion in regard to the comparative merit of each of these different articles, I will merely say that in my own practice, I have made use of only the nitrate of silver, the acid nitrate of mercury, and

the actual cautery. The principles which govern me in selecting the agent to be used are the following: if there be only simple ulceration, without much induration of the tissue beneath, the nitrate of silver is to be preferred. If the ulceration is somewhat extensive, with partial induration, I prefer the acid nitrate of mercury. If the ulcerated surface presents a fungous appearance, and is accompanied with deep seated induration, I resort at once to the actual cautery, as it seems to me more manageable, and less liable to produce injury to the surrounding parts than either the Vienna paste or the potassa fusa. It produces not the slightest pain at the time of the application. Whatever may be the agent that is used, no pain is caused by the operation, but the general symptoms are usually aggravated a few hours afterwards, continuing sometimes for two or three days. In the five cases in which I have made use of the actual cautery, I have thought the subsequent symptoms were much less severe than in those cases, where I have used the nitrate of silver or the acid nitrate of mercury. The only other local treatment necessary, is the frequent use of weak astringent injections, as alum, tannin, sulphate of zinc, &c. As a palliative, I have found the injection of cold water into the rectum, night and morning, more satisfactory than any thing else. I shall not occupy your time with any remarks in regard to the necessary constitutional treatment, as the practitioner will be guided by the general indications of the case. I believe that the mistake that I have made the most frequently, has been in resorting too early to the use of tonics. However weak and anæmiated the patient may have been, tonics have seemed to do harm, while the patient was subjected to deep cauterizations. When the tissue of the cervix has recovered its normal condition, then tonics judiciously prescribed, seem to build up the patient at once. Pregnancy has been formerly regarded as an indication that the local treatment should be discontinued. But the observations of Bennett and Whitehead prove that not only is it safe and free from danger of producing abortion, but that it is the most certain means of preventing this occurrence; diseases of the cervix being by far the most frequent causes of abortion. In 318 cases of abortion, Mr. Whitehead (on the causes and treatment of sterility and abortion) found disease of

the lower part of the uterus to be the cause in 275. The other causes which he mentions, are, accidental agencies in 44; placenta previa in 8; constipation, 3; retroversion, 3; incurable disease, 1; vascular congestion, 15; obscure causes, 29. More than seventy per cent. of the abortions arise from diseases of the cervix. We can easily conceive then, that the successful treatment of the disease, will be the most effectual means of preventing the abortion. I have never been called to treat a patient during pregnancy, but I should regard its existence as a more urgent reason for subjecting the patient to the appropriate treatment.

I will submit to you an abstract of the more important symptoms attending thirty-three cases which have come under my care, as I should exhaust your patience, were I to give a detailed report of each. All were or had been married. Twenty-one had borne children, and of the remaining twelve, seven had aborted; one, four times, three twice, and three once each. A constant leucorrhœal discharge was a symptom in every case. This discharge was in some white, in others yellow, and in five it was frequently sanguinolent, particularly after connection. Dysmenorrhœa (I restrict the term to those cases where the pain continues severe through the whole catamenial period,) existed in nine cases. In all, the first day of the menstrual discharge was attended with a good deal of pain. Menstruation was profuse in thirteen, scanty in three, irregular as to its appearance and sometimes profuse and sometimes scanty in five. The "bearing down" symptoms were the most prominent in thirteen, eight of whom had worn abdominal supporters, four had worn pessaries, the other was accustomed to wear a belt of her own construction, which she thought relieved her. Two patients had no suspicion that they were subjects of uterine disease, but sought medical advice on account of some pulmonary symptoms, which alarmed them extremely. These however entirely disappeared when the disease of the cervix was cured. I think the above analysis embraces all the important general symptoms, except those which may be regarded as purely nervous. These were so numerous, and presented such a variety of characters, that it would be impossible either to analyze or to classify them.

I will ask your indulgence while I give a somewhat detailed report of three cases, which I think offer some points of peculiar interest. *Sept. 6, 1846, I was called in great haste to see Mrs. —, who was represented to be in a dying state. I found her in a violent hysterical paroxysm, really alarming to her friends, as they never had seen her in such a state before. She was of a florid complexion, very full plethoric habit, and had always been in perfect health, the bystanders stated. But on visiting her the next day, I learned the following history. Up to the time of her marriage, which was five years before, she never had had an ill day to the best of her recollection. Five weeks after she was married, she was attacked with what her physician called "inflammation of the bowels." Soon after her recovery, she first observed a leucorrhœal discharge. It was sometimes white, sometimes yellowish, and at other times greenish, but she "did not think there had been a single day that she had been free from it, except when she was unwell." She had aborted three times, the last time, (in Jan. 1845) she was obliged to call in medical aid "after she got all through," on account of the flowing, which was very excessive. Since that time menstruation had been growing more and more painful. She could not recollect that she had suffered during the catamenial discharge previous to the last abortion. Coition had been painful and disagreeable to her since she had "inflammation of the bowels." More than a year ago it became so extremely painful and intolerable, that she "had been compelled to live like a nun ever since." These were her exact words. The menses had been diminishing in quantity for the last six months. The two periods previous to my being sent for, had continued but two days each, which she had been obliged to pass upon her bed on account of the severity of the dysmenorrhœal pains, and a most distressing vertigo. She was perfectly willing to submit to any treatment which would offer a prospect of cure, on account of the unhappy coldness existing between her husband and herself, which she described as amounting to absolute hatred on his part, which was breaking her heart, but which had been most studiously concealed from their most inti-

* These cases are related by permission.

mate friends, as they erroneously supposed. At this time her skin was hot and dry, pulse quick and hard, pain in the head, back, and along the thighs. No satisfactory information could be obtained by the touch, on account of the extreme tenderness of the cervix uteri, except that it was very low down in the pelvis and much enlarged. I therefore directed her to remain in bed, and to take the following medicine, viz.: \mathfrak{z} . Pulv. Rad. Colchic. \mathfrak{z} i, Pulv. Gum Camphor, \mathfrak{z} ii, Ext. Hyoscyamus, \mathfrak{z} i. M. Div. in chart No. 10. S. One every fifth hour. If there was no movement of the bowels, she was to take on the next day \mathfrak{z} Sulph. Magnis. \mathfrak{z} i, Tart. Antimonii et Potassio, gr. i. Succ. Lemois, Aq. Puræ, ss \mathfrak{z} ii. M. Sep. 10. The general appearance of the patient had very much improved. The mixture had operated freely, both as an emetic and cathartic. I did not attempt to examine by touch, but introduced the speculum, with some pain, for the purpose of applying leeches to the cervix. There was an abundance of mucopurulent secretion in the upper part of the vagina, on removing which with a dossil of lint, a part of the anterior lip was seen, of a deep red color, but no ulceration was visible. Eight leeches were applied. She was directed to inject into the vagina, four or five times a day, a warm decoction of poppy leaves, and a pint of cold water into the rectum every morning.

Sept. 18. The patient so much better, that I was able to get a good examination. The cervix is low down, enlarged, offering to the finger very distinctly, the velvety sensation around the orifice, and well marked lobulated indurations. By the speculum, the orifice was about a half inch in length, somewhat protuberant, from which I wiped nearly a teaspoon-full of a mucopurulent secretion, when an ulceration was distinctly seen, occupying both lips. The ulcerated surface was of a bright red color, and did not bleed. Cauterized with the acid nitrate of mercury. In the evening, ten hours after the cauterization, she had a second hysterical paroxysm, more violent than the first. The succeeding two days her symptoms were all aggravated; but after that she improved so much, that it was with difficulty she could be persuaded to remain in bed. Weak injections of sulph. zinc and alum, were substituted for the decoction of poppy, she continuing the cold water enema every morning.

Sept. 26. The cauterization was repeated, the immediate effects of which were much less severe than before. The menses appeared on the 30th, nearly a week earlier than she anticipated, lasting three days, but attended with a good deal of pain. Cauterized again Oct. 8th. On the 15th, the inflammation was entirely gone, and the ulcerated surface completely healed, but as purulent matter was seen issuing from the orifice, I introduced nearly an inch into the cervix, the solid nitrate of silver, and again on the 20th. The menses appeared on the 24th, continuing for five days, and without pain, except just before their appearance. I then permitted her to resume her ordinary habits. Nov. 12th. On an examination with the speculum, and by the touch, no appearance of disease was discovered. The patient described herself as being perfectly well, and it was sufficiently evident that conjugal luxury was restored. Dec. 15th. A speculum examination was made, as the patient had some symptoms which led her to fear that the disease was returning. An irregular erosion with some increased redness was visible on the anterior lip; the solid nitrate of silver was applied, a temperance lecture was given to the husband, and the patient has had no occasion for medical aid since, except on one occasion, when the squalling of a fine baby was deemed delicious music by at least three persons, the parents and the accoucheur.

CASE II. The patient in this case was forty-two years of age, the mother of eight children, the youngest eight years old, since the birth of which she had never been pregnant. She was very pale, extremely emaciated, and years before, she had worn out the patience of every regular practitioner in the vicinity, since which she had tried every itinerant quack, and every patent medicine that she could hear of. I shall not attempt to give a history of the case as it was related to me, as it was the most tedious that I was ever compelled to hear, she seeming to fear all the time, that I should not attach sufficient importance to every ache and ail she had suffered since her childhood. Among other complaints, according to her opinion, she had "two consumptions," "the liver complaint," "the gravel awfully," and "falling of the womb." She asserted, that for many years, she had had a constant leucorrhœal discharge, but that she had been "flowing" every day for the last five months,

which statement was confirmed by her husband's sister, who was present. The discharge had never been fetid. On a digital examination, the ulcerated surface was distinctly felt, the anterior lip seeming shorter than the posterior, indurated and voluminous. The touch was not painful, and the uterus was perfectly movable. On introducing the speculum, it was half filled with a bloody, sanious discharge, on removing which, a fungous ulceration was distinctly visible, completely filling the field of the speculum. On varying the direction of the speculum, so as to bring into view the other parts of the cervix, about one-third only of the posterior lip was found free from ulceration. The diagnosis was extremely doubtful in my mind, whether it was a corroding ulcer, an ulcerated cancer, or an inflammatory ulceration.

It was impossible for me to decide satisfactorily whether the increased size of the cervix was due to engorgement or to morbid deposition in the part. But the uterus was movable, and the discharge had never been fetid, two facts opposed to the idea of carcinomatous ulceration, and the fungous granulations appeared too large for corroding ulcer. On suggesting, with a good deal of hesitation, that there was a bare possibility that some benefit might accrue from cauterizing with a hot iron, to my utter astonishment, she at once insisted it should be done, evidently from a morbid desire for sympathy on account of being the subject of such a terrific operation. Not to weary you with a minute detail of the case, I will say in general terms that the cervix was cauterized with the hot iron three times, and with the nitrate of silver twice, the intervals between each cauterization varying from eight days to three weeks, and that a perfect cure was the result. It is now more than a year since she has had any uterine discharge, either sanguineous or leucorrhœal, and her general health is now excellent. A little of the old spirit however remains, as the last time I saw her, some two months since, she was very much afraid that her flesh was black and her color hectic.

CASE III. I shall relate in very brief terms this case, solely for the purpose of showing how easy it is to be mistaken, and of enforcing the importance of caution in prognosis. The patient was pale, feeble and emaciated from a menorrhagia of

three years standing. It had been several times arrested for a short period, only to recur again with increased violence. She was the mother of three children, the youngest six years old, since the birth of which she had never conceived. The slightest exertion, as going up stairs or riding in an easy carriage, would frequently bring on a sudden and profuse discharge of blood. I will do myself the justice to say, that in the onset I suspected a polypus, but on making a most careful examination, I found nothing to confirm my suspicion. The cervix was moderately tender to the touch, the orifice open, admitting the ungual portion of the finger, with apparently a very superficial ulceration of the anterior lip. The vaginal portion of the cervix seemed to me full two inches in length, but not enlarged to any considerable extent. From the result of this examination and a full history of the case, I was induced to urge upon my patient a specular examination, which she with some reluctance consented to. On discovering a superficial ulceration of some extent, involving both lips of the cervix, I was stupid enough to promise a very speedy cure. The ulceration was soon cured, but not so the uterine hæmorrhage. This continued, although not the slightest disease of the cervix could be discovered by repeated and careful examination, both by the touch and with the speculum. Every known remedy was resorted to, with but very little benefit, until at last I lost all confidence in myself, and plainly told my patient so. She became subject to repeated attacks of hæmorrhage from the nose, and her general health was fast breaking up. Thus the case went on, for nearly four months, when in October last, I read an article by Dr. Bennett, in the London Lancet for August, 1847, on ulceration of the cervix uteri, accompanying uterine polyp. Another specular examination was made, separating the lips of the cervix with the speculum forceps, so that a portion of the cavity of the cervix was distinctly visible, but nothing could be detected indicating the existence of a polypus. On attempting to examine with a probe, so much hæmorrhage came on that I was obliged to desist from further exploration. She was so much exhausted by this examination that she kept her bed for a week, and three weeks were allowed to pass before she was again subjected to another examination. At this time a sponge tent was introdu-

ced into the cervix, and retained in its place by filling the vagina with old linen, and this was allowed to remain, she keeping her bed for two days. The last day she suffered from pains which she described as being exactly like labor pains, only more severe than she had ever experienced. On removing the tampon and sponge, a profuse discharge of blood took place, obliging me to wait nearly two hours before I judged it proper to proceed farther. On introducing the speculum, and separating the lips of the cervix, the cavity of which was a good deal dilated by the sponge, the cause of all her trouble was apparent, although imperfectly so from the constant oozing of blood. With a good deal of difficulty I succeeded in twisting and pulling off with the forceps, the polypus which I now exhibit to you. Symptoms of acute metritis, requiring active treatment for a few days, came on directly after the operation, followed again by ulceration of the cervix, which yielded readily to cauterization with the nitrate of silver. Her restoration to health was slow but complete.

It was my intention to have added a few observations on some of the functional disorders which occur so frequently, as symptoms of the diseases which we have been considering, but I have already taxed your patience too severely. Allow me in conclusion, to state my conviction that a large majority of the cases of prolapsus, dysmenorrhœa, menorrhagia, and leucorrhœa, which the medical man is called upon to treat, arises from organic disease of the cervix uteri. Dr. William C. Roberts, in by far the very best paper I have read on the subject of leucorrhœa, (*New York Journal of Medicine*, for May and July, 1845,) demonstrates, most satisfactorily to my mind, that this is the true pathology of leucorrhœa, and I have no doubt that future investigations will establish the fact, that the other affections referred to above, are rarely idiopathic diseases.

*Act of Incorporation of the Connecticut Medical Society. Act
in relation to the Medical Institution of Yale College. By
Laws, &c.*

AN ACT

TO INCORPORATE THE CONNECTICUT MEDICAL SOCIETY.

Sec. 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened,* That the Physicians and Surgeons now members of the Connecticut Medical Society, and all Physicians and Surgeons who shall be associated with them in pursuance of the provisions of this act, shall be and remain a body politic and corporate, by the name of THE CONNECTICUT MEDICAL SOCIETY; and by that name, they and their successors shall and may have perpetual succession; shall be capable of suing and being sued, pleading and being impleaded, in all suits of whatever kind or nature; may have a common seal, and may alter the same at pleasure; and may also purchase, receive, hold and convey any estate, real or personal, to any amount not exceeding one hundred thousand dollars.

Sec. 2. The members of the Society shall meet, annually, in their respective counties, at such places as have been or may hereafter be agreed upon by them, (on the second Thursday of April;) and shall elect from among themselves, a chairman, clerk and such other officers as they may find necessary; and being thus organized, shall thereupon, immediately elect, by ballot, of their own number, in each county five, except in the counties of Middlesex and Tolland, and in each of those counties three Fellows, to have the superintendence and management of the Society. And the members of the Society in their respective county meetings, shall have power to adjourn said meetings from time to time, and to hold special meetings as they may judge expedient; and may adopt such regulations for their own government, and for the promotion of Medical Science, as they may think proper, not repugnant to the by-laws of the Society.

Sec. 3. The Fellows thus chosen at the several county meetings, shall meet together, on the second Wednesday of May, annually, at such time and place as has been, or may be designated by them; and being thus assembled, shall elect by ballot, from among any of the members of the Society, a President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary of the Society, who shall hold their office one year and until others be chosen, and shall by virtue of their office, be Fellows of the Society for the time being; and shall have the same power, privileges and authority as if originally elected by the members of the Society.

Sec. 4. The President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Fellows thus chosen shall be known and called by the name of "The President and Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society;" a majority of whom, legally assembled together, shall be a quorum for the transaction of any business; and shall have power to make by-laws.

For the regulation and government of the Society, and for the promotion of the objects of the same, full repugnance to the laws of the United States or of this State; to expel any member of the Society for misconduct; to admit honorary members; to make rules for the admission of members of the Society, and for their dismissal from the same; to lay a tax upon the members of the Society not exceeding two dollars in each year, to be collected by the clerks of the respective county meetings and to be paid over to the Treasurer of the Society; to dispose of the money thus raised, and all other property of the Society in such a manner as they may think proper, to promote the objects and interests of the Society.

Sec. 5. At all the meetings of the Fellows for the transaction of business, the President of the Society, or in case of his absence, the Vice President shall preside; and in case of the absence of the President and Vice President, the Fellows present may elect one of their own number as President for the occasion.

Sec. 6. The President of the Society, or in case of his death, or absence out of the State, the Vice President, on any special occasion, shall have power to call a meeting of the President and Fellows, at such time and place, as he may think proper upon giving twenty days notice in two newspapers printed in this State; and in case of the death, resignation or inability of the President, Vice President, Treasurer or Secretary of the Society, the vacancy made thereby, may be filled for the remainder of the year, by the Fellows, at any legal meeting duly assembled.

Sec. 7. It shall be the duty of the several clerks of the county meetings, in their respective counties, to collect and pay over to the Treasurer of the Society all such taxes as shall from time to time be laid by the President and Fellows, upon the members of the Society as aforesaid; and for that purpose said clerks may procure a warrant under the hand of a justice of the peace against such member or members of the Society, as shall neglect or refuse to pay the taxes so imposed upon them as aforesaid; which warrant any justice of the peace is hereby empowered to issue, and said warrant shall be directed to the sheriff or his deputies of the county in which such delinquent member or members reside; and said sheriff or either of his deputies on receiving such warrant may therewith proceed to enforce the collection of such tax or taxes, in the same manner, and with the addition of the same fees, as are by law prescribed and allowed to the collectors of town taxes. And if any of the clerks of the county meetings shall neglect or refuse to collect the taxes entrusted to him to collect, by the time the same are made payable, or having collected the same, shall neglect or refuse to pay the same over to the Treasurer of the Society, such Treasurer may cause a suit or suits to be instituted against such delinquent in the name of the Society, before any court proper to try the same, and the same to pursue to final judgment; and the clerks shall be allowed and receive a compensation of five per centum on all moneys collected by them respectively, and paid to the Treasurer of the Medical Society.

Sec. 8. No physician or surgeon who shall have commenced practice since the year one thousand eight hundred, or who shall hereafter commence practice, shall be entitled by law to recover any debt or fees for such

No provision for annual meetings of the Society is made by this Charter.

practice, unless he shall have been duly licensed by some Medical Society or College of Physicians; and all persons licensed to practice physic and surgery and residing within this State shall of course be members of the Medical Society.

Approved, June 5th, 1834.

AN ACT

IN ALTERATION OF AN ACT ENTITLED "AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE CONNECTICUT MEDICAL SOCIETY."

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened. That the several county meetings of the Connecticut Medical Society may change the time of holding said meetings to such time as they may severally appoint; and that so much of the act to incorporate the Connecticut Medical Society as is contrary to this act be, and is hereby repealed.

Approved, June 22th, 1837.

AN ACT

IN RELATION TO THE MEDICAL INSTITUTION OF YALE COLLEGE.

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened. The Medical Institution established in Yale College, pursuant to an agreement between the President and Fellows of Yale College, and the President and Fellows of the Medical Society of Connecticut, shall be known and acknowledged by the name of THE MEDICAL INSTITUTION OF YALE COLLEGE.

Sec. 2. There shall be established in the Institution not less than four nor more than six Professorships; and the price of the tickets for the course of lectures on each branch, shall not exceed twelve dollars and fifty cents. There shall be a joint committee of an equal number of persons appointed by the President and Fellows of Yale College and the President and Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society, who shall make a nomination; from which nomination the Professors shall be chosen by the President and Fellows of the College.

Sec. 3. Every medical student shall be required to attend to the study of physic and surgery, for two years with some medical or surgical professor or practitioner, who is in respectable standing; provided he shall have been graduated at some college; otherwise to study three years; to have acquired in addition to a good English education, a competent knowledge of the Latin language and of the principles of Natural Philosophy; to have arrived at the age of twenty-one years; to be of good moral character; and to deliver in the committee of examination a satisfactory dissertation upon some subject in medicine or surgery, or the auxiliary branches

And every medical student shall attend one course of the lectures, under the professors of the Medical Institution of Yale College or of some other public medical institution, previously to his being admitted to an examination for a license; and the course or courses of lectures which he shall attend, may be included within the time he is required to study. Provided nevertheless, that upon the recommendation of the Medical Society in each county, one judicious and unconsistuous person from such county shall annually be allowed the privilege of attending one course of lectures gratis, and if any one of the counties should fail to recommend as above, the President and Fellows of said society may fill up the vacancy. It shall be the duty of the clerks of the several county meetings, to report to the President and Fellows, the names of the persons whom they shall agree to recommend; and the Secretary of the Society shall transmit the said names, together with such as the President and Fellows may add, agreeably to the above provision, the Medical Professors of Yale College.

Sec. 4. Each candidate for the degree of Doctor in Medicine shall be required to attend two courses of lectures, at the Medical Institution of Yale College, or at some other public medical institution where a similar course of public instruction is pursued; which degree upon the recommendation of the committee of examination, shall be conferred by the President of the College, and the diploma signed by him and countersigned by the examining committee, or a majority of them; and the fee for graduation shall be fifteen dollars. The President of the College may also confer the honorary degree of Doctor in Medicine, upon those persons, whom the President and Fellows of the Medical Society shall recommend for that purpose.

Sec. 5. The Committee of examination for the practice of physic and surgery, shall consist of the Professors of the Medical Institution of the College and an equal number of the members of the Medical Society appointed by the President and Fellows of the same; and the President of the Medical Society shall be ex officio president of the examining committee, with a vote at all times, and a casting vote when there is a tie; and in case of the absence of the President, a president pro tempore shall be appointed by the members of the examining committee chosen by the Medical Society, with the same powers; which committee or a majority of them shall possess the power and they only of examining for a license; and all licenses to practice physic or surgery shall be signed by the President of the Medical Society and countersigned by the Secretary of the committee of examination; which Secretary they are hereby authorized to appoint; and the fee for each license shall be four dollars, and shall accrue to the Medical Society. All licenses heretofore signed by the Clerk or Secretary of the examining committee, shall be valid and have the same effect, as if they had been signed by the examining committee, any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

Sec. 6. There shall be but one examination in the year which shall be immediately at the close of the lectures; when a candidate is prevented by sickness from attending at that time, he may afterwards be examined by the medical professors; and such examination, together with their certificate thereof, shall entitle him to the same privileges as though his examination had been by said committee.

Sec. 7. All medical students who shall have attended two courses of the lectures in the Medical Institution shall have the privilege of attending all future courses gratis.

And be it further enacted, That the act entitled "An act to incorporate the Connecticut Medical Society and to establish the Medical Institution of Yale College," and all acts in addition to, and in alteration thereof, be, and the same are hereby repealed: Provided that all proceedings had, and all obligations imposed, in pursuance of the acts hereby repealed, shall have the same effect as though said acts were still in force—and all taxes heretofore laid pursuant to said acts, may be collected according to the provisions of said acts, in the same manner as though said acts had not been repealed.

Approved, June 26, 1834.

BY-LAWS.

§ I.—COUNTY MEETINGS.

1. The Members of the Society, at any County Meeting legally holden, may, by a major vote of the members present, admit to membership in the Society any person regularly licensed to practice physic and surgery, and practicing in said county, who shall make application for that purpose.

2. They may, by a similar vote, dismiss from the Society any Member who shall remove from this State, or who shall leave the profession for other pursuits.

3. They may also, if they deem it expedient, recommend to the President and Fellows of the Society, for dismission from the same, any Member residing in their respective Counties, who shall apply for such dismission by a written request to that effect delivered to the Clerk of the County Meeting, at least ten days before the time of holding any legal County Meeting; and also any Member who shall refuse or neglect to pay taxes: and upon the approval of such recommendations by the President and Fellows in Convention, the connection between such Member and the Society shall be dissolved. *Provided*, that no Member shall be honorably dismissed from the Society until all his taxes shall have been paid.

4. All violation of the By-Laws of the Society, or of the Medical Police adopted by the Society, or of the Rules and Regulations passed by the County Meetings, in conformity with the By-Laws of the Society, may be punished and tried by the Members of the Society, in their respective County Meetings, under the following regulations, viz:

The Member accusing another of a violation of any of the before-mentioned Regulations, shall make a statement in writing of the transgression which he deems a misdemeanor, and lay the same before a Fellow of the Society; and such Fellow shall issue a notification to the accused, to appear before the next County Meeting, stating the time when, and the place where, it is to be held, to defend, if he see fit, against such accusation. A copy of such accusation and notification shall be left with the accused, or

at his last usual place of abode, at least twelve days previous to the time of holding the next County Meeting. And the accuser shall cause the said accusation and notification to be signed and returned to the Clerk of the County Meeting, on or before the day of their sitting; and the offender, upon conviction, may be punished by admonition, by suspension from the privileges of the Society for a period not exceeding two years, or by expulsion from the Society. *Provided*, that no sentence of expulsion shall be valid until confirmed by the President and Fellows in Convention.

5. The several County Meetings are authorized to make such regulations as their local circumstances may require: *Provided*, that such regulations be not contrary to the laws of the State, or the By-Laws of this Society.

6. When a new clerk is chosen in any of the Counties, his predecessor shall deliver over to him all the records and papers appertaining to the office, retaining copies of the same if he think proper.

The Clerks of the several County Meetings shall take the following oath, viz:

"You, A. B., being chosen Clerk of the Meeting of the Medical Society for the County of ———, do swear that you will record all votes of said meeting, and give true copies of the same, when thereto requested, so *help you God*."

7. The Clerks shall transmit the names and places of residence of the Fellows, and of the persons recommended for a gratuitous course of lectures, to the Secretary, immediately after the election in April, that the same may be published at least a week before the Convention. They shall also forward to the Secretary, and a duplicate copy to the Treasurer, on or before the first day of the Convention, the names of the members in their respective Counties, and their places of residence; and those who fail in the performance of this duty, shall be subject to a fine of five dollars, to be collected by the Treasurer.

§ II. MEMBERS.

8. Each Member of the Society shall have free access to the records of the Society, and of the County Meeting in which he belongs; and may take attested copies thereof if he request them.

9. All Members of this Society are invited to be present at the meetings of the Presidential Fellows, and to partake of the dinner on the first day of the session.

10. No member of this Society shall be called on for a tax that shall have been laid after he has arrived at the age of sixty years.

11. If any member of the Society shall make, vend, or publicly recommend any nostrum or patent medicine, and be thereof convicted, he shall be suspended from the privileges of the Society, or expelled.

12. No Member of the Society shall hold professional consultation or intercourse with any other than Licensed Physicians and Surgeons, in regular standing.

13. It shall be the duty of each Member of this Society to accuse any other Member of the Society, for each misdemeanour or he deems contrary to the By-Laws, Medical Police, or Rules and Regulations adopted by the Society. And the accuser shall make a statement in writing, of the

transactions which he deems a misdemeanor, and lay the same before a Fellow of the Society; and each Fellow shall issue a notice to the accused, to appear before the President and Fellows at their next Convention, stating the name and place of their sitting, to defend, if he see cause against said accusation. A copy of said accusation and notification shall be left with the accused, or at his last usual place of abode, at least twelve days previous to the next Convention of the President and Fellows. And the accused shall cause the said accusation and notification to be served and returned to the President and Fellows on the first day of their sitting.

§ III.—OFFICERS, FELLOWS, &c.

14. The President and Fellows shall each receive two dollars for his attendance in the Convention, and receive and a half cents for each mile's travel from the term of his residence to that of the Convention; mileage to be repaid to it is to members of our State Legislature. The Dissertist shall be entitled to the same.

15. The Fellows of the Society shall be a Committee of Abatement in their respective Counties.

16. Each person receiving a license to practice from this Society, shall pay the sum of four dollars to the Clerk of the Committee of Examination, who shall account with the Treasurer for the same.

17. The Secretary shall be required to take the following oath, viz :

"You, A. B., being chosen Secretary of the Connecticut Medical Society do swear that you will reveal all votes of the President and Fellows and give true copies when thereto requested, and faithfully perform all the duties relating to said office, so help you God."

It shall be the duty of the Secretary to reveal all the transactions of the President and Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society in their Conventions, give true copies of the same when thereto requested, read all their correspondence, and have the custody of the seal of the Society.

The Secretary is also authorized to send, each year, an extra copy of the Proceedings of the Convention to each of the Clerks, for the use of the County Meetings.

He is also requested to put up, each year, in at least three public houses in the town in which the Convention meets, a written notice of the place of meeting, at least one day before the sitting of the Convention.

18. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep the moneys of the Society, subject to their orders, and to render annually to the President and Fellows an account of all moneys received and paid by him. He is also directed to make out a general docket or bill, taking for his guide the schedule allowed by the Legislature of the State.

He shall be allowed ten dollars for his services, on his account being accepted, at the end of each year.

No docket or bill shall be paid by the Treasurer, that is more than seventeen years old.

19. The President of the Society and the Clerk of the Committee of Examination are authorized to grant a new License, free of expense, to any person who has been previously licensed, according to the laws of this State, upon satisfactory proof being exhibited to them that such previous license has been lost.

20. The Committee of Examination, the Committee to nominate Professors in the Medical Institution, and the Committee to nominate the Physician to the Retreat for the insane, shall be chosen by ballot. All other Committees shall be appointed by the Presiding Officer of the Convention.

21. The Standing Committees of the Society are requested annually to report to the President and Fellows, whenever they shall have occasion to act in their official capacity.

Resolved, That whenever the President shall see fit to call a special session of the Convention, besides advertising as now provided, he shall also send a notice to each member, of the time and place of meeting, which notice shall be mailed at least one week previous to the meeting of such Convention.

Resolved, That before any person can be admitted into the office of a Physician, or a Student of Medicine, he shall furnish evidence of good moral character, and shall be examined by the preceptor and one of the Fellows of this Society; the examination to be upon the subjects of English education, and Greek and Latin languages. If found qualified, he is to receive a certificate to that effect, and be enrolled as a regular student of medicine.

Resolved, That but two persons be elected on each of the Standing Committees each year; the first two on the list to be dropped, and the two chosen to be placed at the bottom; but any person may be re-elected.

SYSTEM OF MEDICAL POLICE.

Adopted by the Society in October 1817.

CONSULTATIONS.

Consultations should be encouraged in difficult and protracted cases, as they give rise to confidence, energy, and more enlarged views in practice. On such occasions, no rivalry or jealousy should be indulged; candor, justice, and all due respect should be exercised towards the physician who first attended; and as he may be presumed to be best acquainted with the patient and family, he should deliver all the medical directions as agreed upon. It should be the province, however, of the senior consulting physician to propose the necessary questions to the sick.

The consulting physician is never to visit without the attending one, unless by the desire of the latter, or when, as in sudden emergency, he is not to be found. No discussion of the case should take place before the patient or his friends; and no prognostications should be delivered, which were not the result of previous deliberation and concurrence. Theoretical debates, indeed, should generally be avoided in consultation, as occasioning perplexity and loss of time; for there may be much diversity of opinion on speculative points, with perfect agreement on those modes of practice, which are founded not on hypothesis, but on experience and observation. Physicians in consultation, whatever may be their private sentiments or opinions of one another, should divest themselves of all partialities, and think of nothing but what will most effectually contribute to the relief of those under their care.

If a physician cannot lay his hand to his heart and say, that his mind is

perfectly open to correction, from whatever quarter it may come, he should be loath to decline the consultation.

All discussions and debates in consultation, are to be held secret and confidential.

Many advantages may arise from two consulting together, who are men of sound, and have mutual confidence in each other's taste. A friendly ray, sent to one, which did not, to another, and a physician may want resolution or a confidence in his own opinion, to prescribe a powerful, but precarious remedy, on which, however, the life of his patient may depend; in this case, a concurrent opinion may be his own. But when such mutual confidence is wanting, a consultation had better be declined, especially if there is reason to believe that sentiments delivered with openness, are to be misinterpreted abroad, or to the family concerned; and if, in consequence of this, either gentleman is to be made responsible for the event.

The utmost punctuality should be observed in consultation visits; and to avoid loss of time, it will be expedient for the physician in every town or county, to establish a certain space of time as an allowance for delay, after which the meeting might be considered as postponed for a new appointment. If a consulting physician should arrive after the attending physician has withdrawn, he should deliver his opinion in writing.

INTERFERENCE.

Medicine is a liberal profession; the practitioners are, or ought to be, men of education; and their expectations of business and employment should be founded on their degree of qualifications, not on artifice and insimulation. A certain undecidable species of modesty and unassuming, therefore, to families usually employing another, is to be considered as beneath the dignity of a regular practitioner, and as making a sorry trade of a learned profession; and all odious interferences in cases of sickness in such families, evince a wantonness of disposition, unbecoming the character of a physician or a gentleman. No meddling inquiries should be made concerning them, nor hints given relative to their nature and treatment, nor any selfish conduct pursued, that may directly or indirectly, tend to weaken confidence in the physician and surgeons, who have the care of them.

When a physician is called to a patient, who has been under the care of another gentleman of the faculty, before any examination of the case, he should ascertain, whether that gentleman had dismissed his visit, and whether the patient considers himself as under his care; in which case, he is not to assume the charge of the patient, nor give his advice, (except in instances of sudden attacks) without a regular consultation; and if such previously attending gentleman has been dismissed, or has voluntarily relinquished the patient, his practice should be treated with caution, and justified as far as possible and truth will permit; for the want of success in the primary treatment of the disorder, is no impeachment of professional skill and knowledge.

It frequently happens that a physician, in useful communications with the patients of others, or with their friends, may have their cases stated to him in an direct a manner, as not to admit of his declining to participate in them. Under such circumstances, his attentions should be directed with the most delicate propriety and reserve. He should not interfere in the curative plans proposed; and should even recommend a steady adherence to them, if they appear to merit approbation.

DIFFERENCES OF PHYSICIANS.

The differences of physicians, when they rise in appeals to the public, generally hurt the confidence parties; but what is of more consequence, they discredit the profession, and expose the faculty itself to contempt and ridicule. Whenever such differences arise, as may affect the honor and dignity of the profession, and cannot amicably be terminated, or do not come under the character of violating of the special rules of the asso-

cision, otherwise provided for, they should be referred to the arbitration of a sufficient number of members of the Society, according to the nature of the dispute; but neither the subject matter of such references, nor the arbitrations, should, if it can be avoided, be communicated to the public, as they may be personally injurious to the individuals concerned, and can hardly fail to hurt the general credit of the faculty.

DISCOURAGEMENT OF QUACKERY.

The use of quack medicines, should be discouraged by the faculty, as dangerous to the profession, injurious to health, and often destructive even of life. No physician or surgeon, therefore, should dispense a secret nostrum, whether it be his invention or exclusive property; for if it is of real efficacy the concealment of it is inconsistent with beneficence and professional liberality; and, if mystery alone gives it value and importance, such craft implies, either disgraceful ignorance, or fraudulent artifice.

CONDUCT FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE MEDICAL CHARACTER.

The spirit of corps is a principle of action founded on human nature, and, when duly regulated, is both rational and laudable. Every man, who enters into a fraternity, engages, by tacit consent, not only to submit to the laws, but to promote the honor and interest of the association, so far as they are consistent with morality and the general good of mankind. A physician, therefore, should vigilantly guard against whatever may injure the general respectability of the profession, and should avoid all unbecoming representations of the faculty at large, all general charges against their selfishness or improbity, or the indulgence of an affected or peevish scepticism concerning the efficacy and utility of the healing art.

FEEs.

General rules are adopted by the faculty in every town or county, relative to the pecuniary acknowledgments of their patients; and it should be deemed a point of honor to adhere to them; and every deviation from, or evasion of these rules, should be considered as meriting the indignation and contempt of the fraternity.

Gratuitous services to the poor, are by no means prohibited; the charitable benevolence of the profession is inconsistent with careful views and anxious capacity. The poor of every description should be the objects of our peculiar care. Dr. Boerhaave used to say they were his best patients, because God was their paymaster.

It is obvious, also, that an average fee, as suited to the general rank of patients, must be an inadequate compensation from the rich, (who often require attendance not absolutely necessary) and yet too large to be expected from that class of citizens, who would feel a reluctance in calling for assistance, without making some decent and satisfactory remuneration.

SENIORITY.

A regular and academical education furnishes the only presumptive evidence of professional ability, and is so beneficial and beneficial, that it gives a just claim to pre-eminence among physicians at large, in proportion to the degree in which it may be enjoyed and improved. Nevertheless as industry and talents may furnish exceptions to this general rule, and this method may be liable to difficulties in the application, seniority, among practitioners of this State, should be determined by the period of public and acknowledged practice as a physician or surgeon in the same. This arrangement being clear and obvious, is adapted to remove all grounds of dispute; and it secures the regular continuance of the established order of precedence, which might otherwise be subject to troublesome interruptions by new settlers, perhaps not long stationary in the place.

PROCEEDINGS

AT THE

FIFTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

CONNECTICUT MEDICAL SOCIETY,

MAY, 1849,

TOGETHER WITH

A LIST OF MEMBERS, AND THE ANNUAL DISSERTATION.

HARTFORD:

PRESS OF CASE, TIFFANY AND COMPANY.

1849.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

GEORGE SUMNER, M. D., President.
RUFUS BLAKEMAN, M. D., Vice President.
V. M. DOW, M. D., Treasurer.
JOSIAH G. BECKWITH, M. D., Secretary.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Committee of Execution

GEORGE SUMNER, M. D., *ex officio*.
WILLIAM WITTER, M. D.
RICHARD WARNER, M. D.
ALVAN TALCOTT, M. D.
HIRAM HOLT, M. D.
ORSON WOOD, M. D.

Committee to nominate Physicians to the Retreat for the Insane.

STURGES BULKLEY, M. D.
THOMAS MINER, M. D.
WORTHINGTON HOOKER, M. D.
ASHBEL WOODWARD, M. D.
OSIRIS WITTER, M. D.

Committee to nominate Professors in the Medical Institution of Yale College.

G. B. HAWLEY, M. D.
WILLIAM H. COGSWELL, M. D.
ALDEN SKINNER, M. D.
ELIJAH MIDDLEBROOK, M. D.
NORMAN LYMAN, M. D.

At the Annual Convention of the President and Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society, held in Gilman's Hall, in Hartford, May 23, 1849.

The Convention were called to order by the President, when the certificates of the election of Fellows from the several Counties, were presented, as follows:

FELLOWS.

HARTFORD COUNTY.

E. K. Hunt, M. D.
*A. L. Spalding, M. D.
Eli Hall, M. D.
Thomas Miner, M. D.
Seth L. Childs, M. D.

NEW HAVEN COUNTY.

Henry Brownson, M. D.
G. L. Platt, M. D.
Reynold Webb, M. D.
N. B. Ives, M. D.
B. H. Cullen, M. D.

NEW LONDON COUNTY.

*Ashbel B. Hall, M. D.
Ashbel Woodward, M. D.
John C. Bolton, M. D.
Avery Doxton, M. D.
Joseph Cinncock, M. D.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY.

Rufus Blackman, M. D.
Samuel Booth, M. D.
*H. N. Brown, M. D.
Elihu Middlebrook, M. D.
George Blackman, M. D.

WINDHAM COUNTY.

Orrin Winter, M. D.
Asa Winter, M. D.
Charles H. Foster, M. D.
Fenner H. Peckham, M. D.
Dewitt C. Lathrop, M. D.

LITCHFIELD COUNTY.

J. G. Beckwith, M. D.
†Peter Boardman, M. D.
*E. M. Forster, M. D.
*Myron Dwyer, M. D.
*Edward P. Lyman, M. D.

RISEBURY COUNTY.

Franklin Woodruff, M. D.
Benjamin M. Foster, M. D.
Ira Hutchinson, M. D.

TOLLAND COUNTY.

Adonijah White, M. D.
Orson Wood, M. D.
*Elijah A. Woodward, M. D.

The Convention being organized, the President presented his resignation, accompanied with the following remarks :

GENTLEMEN :

As some of the members of this Convention were present, when I had the honor to receive the appointment of President of the Connecticut Medical Society, in 1816, it is my duty, while I tender to you my resignation, as I now do, also to express the high sense of obligation which I am under to you, and to others, who have re-appointed me to the same office. The organization of this society, which was effected near the close of the last century, laid the foundation of an institution which has been productive of a vast amount of good. The effect has been to elevate the standard of Medical education ; to bring frequently in contact those who have exerted a very salutary influence in advancing the cause of Medical science ; and although it did not originate, it was instrumental in establishing the Medical School, which is an honor to Connecticut, and whose graduates are now employed in the practice of their profession in almost every section of our country. And notwithstanding, by the decision of the Legislature, in 1822, it was enacted that no legal distinction shall exist between the thoroughly educated physician, and those who pass directly from the workshop and the farm, to any of the exclusive modes of practice now adopted to please the fancy of the public, it is still incumbent upon us to conduct such, and such only, into the profession, as have been thoroughly instructed in all those sciences which are so indispensably necessary to qualify them for the successful discharge of their professional duties. That our present organization, with such slight modifications of the charter or by-laws as may from time to time be made, will continue, I cannot doubt ; and that an organization based upon the general principles by which we are governed, should be perpetuated, cannot be questioned by this or any future Convention.

That alterations and improvements in the by-laws may occasionally be made with advantage, is probable ; and although it may not be considered appropriate for me, in this place, to suggest any alterations, I will detain you no longer than to propose, whether an article in the Constitution of the Medical Society of the State of New York, requiring the President to open the Convention with an address, may not with great propriety be incorporated into our code of by-laws.

On motion of Dr. Wood, the Convention then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year : when

GEORGE SUMNER, M. D. was elected *President*.

RUFUS BLAKEMAN, M. D., *Vice President*.

V. M. DOW, M. D. *Treasurer*.

And G. W. KESTER, M. D., having declined a re-election,

J. G. BECKWITH, M. D. was elected *Secretary*.

The Treasurer presented his report, which was read, accepted, and referred to an auditing committee consisting of Drs. Orrin Winter, John C. Bolles, and B. H. Catlin, who reported that they had examined the report and found it correct. Report of committee accepted.

Abstract of Treasurer's Report.

Cash in Treasury,		\$50 30½
Due from Clerks, supposed to be good,	\$1218 03½	
Deduct for average abatements 12		
per cent,	\$158, 09½	
Also 5 per cent. commission on the		
remainder, (\$1057 80)	218 48½	
	<u>\$308 57</u>	
Balance,		1605 03
Assets,		<u>\$1685 01½</u>
Due from Society,		
On Delinquents outstanding,	\$387 13½	
To J. B. Whitcomb, (overpayment,) 11 58		
Balance in favor of Society,	999 91	
	<u>\$1685 61½</u>	

The Convention then proceeded to fill vacancies in the standing committees as follows:

In the Committee of Examination, by the election of Hiram Holt, M. D., and Orono Wood, M. D.

In the Committee to nominate Physicians to the Retreat for the Insane, by the election of Ashbel Woodward, M. D., and Orrin Winter, M. D. Dr. Holt having resigned his place on this committee, the vacancy was filled by the election of Thomas Mear, M. D.

On motion, the election to fill the vacancies in the standing Committee to nominate Professors to the Medical Institution at Yale College was for the present postponed.

On motion of Dr. Beckwith,

Resolved, Unanimously, that the thanks of this Convention be tendered to our late President, Archibald Welch, M. D., for the able, and impartial manner with which he has discharged the arduous

duties of President of the Society, and also for the appropriate communication delivered by him, on tendering his resignation; and that a copy thereof be requested for publication with the proceedings of the Convention; and that in accordance with his suggestion the following addition be made to the code of By-laws of the Connecticut Medical Society, viz:

That it shall hereafter be the duty of the President of this society to deliver an Address to the Convention annually.

The resolution was passed unanimously and the by-law adopted.

On motion of the Secretary, the following committees were then appointed viz:

On gratuitous Students, Drs. Middlebrook, Childs, Downer, Asa Winsor, F. Woodruff, Catlin, Brandegee and A. White.

On Honorary Degrees, and Honorary Membership, Drs. Ives, Hall, Comstock, Peckham, Hutchinson, Blackman, Beckwith, and Wood.

Drs. Bronson, Hart, Fuller, Woodruff, Beach, R. M. Fowler, and E. A. Woodward were appointed a committee to nominate a Dissertator for the next Convention.

The reading of the Dissertation was on motion postponed until the opening of the Convention in the afternoon.

On motion of Dr. Platt,

The resolution introduced by him into the last Convention in relation to Medical charges against clergymen, and which was on the table for further action, was called up by him, when on motion the resolution was referred to a committee of three, viz: Drs. Platt, Bronson and Miner, to modify the resolution and report in the afternoon.

A communication was received from Dr. Erasmus D. Hudson, soliciting an interview with the Convention, to exhibit "Palmer's patent premium artificial leg" for examination. On motion Drs. Childs, Hart, and Ives, were appointed a committee to examine the specimen exhibited by Dr. Hudson, and report to the Convention in the afternoon.

On motion the Convention adjourned to 4 o'clock P. M.

FOUR O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Alvan Talcott, M. D., read a Dissertation on "Hygiene"

Resolved, That the thanks of the Convention be tendered to Dr. Talcott, for his able, and interesting address, and that the Secretary request a copy for publication with the Proceedings of the Convention.

The Committee on Honorary Degrees and Honorary Membership reported the names of William N. Clark, of Stafford, and Ezekiel Skinner of Ashford, for the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Medicine to be recommended to the President and Fellows of Yale College for appointment.

Report accepted and the Convention recommended them accordingly.

The committee on Dr. Palmer's artificial leg, presented by Dr. Hudson, reported that "they had examined the same, and believed that they could safely recommend it to the attention of those who were so unfortunate as to need it, as being equal in all and superior in many respects to any which had come under their notice."

Report accepted.

The committee to whom was referred the resolution submitted by Dr. Platt to the last and present Convention, presented the following report: which was on motion accepted.

"Whereas it has been the custom of medical gentlemen to visit and render professional services without charge to clergymen and their families,

And whereas the causes that prompted to this gratuity have ceased to exist, therefore,

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Convention that clergymen should be charged the same fees as other citizens, and that it shall not be considered dishonorable to collect the same."

Dr. Hunt reported the following resolution which had been passed by the Hartford and New London County Meetings, (which was indefinitely postponed by the convention of 1846 but by a major vote of said meetings referred to the present Convention for further action.)

Resolved, That the money now collected by a tax imposed upon the members of the Medical Society of this State for defraying the expenses of the Fellows to this Convention, be no longer devoted to this purpose, but instead, to the publication of a medical work under the direction of a committee appointed for this object, and that every tax-paying member of this society, on payment of his tax, be entitled to a copy of said work.

The resolution after some discussion was laid on the table.

Dr. Middlebrook from the committee on gratuitous students, reported that the following gentlemen were recommended by the several counties, viz:

Hartford County,	Leander B. Humlin, East Granby,
New Haven, "	Warren P. Beach, Meriden,

New London County,	Dixon S. Hall, Mottville.
Litchfield "	Henry H. Foote, Roxbury.
Windham "	William Seale,
Middlesex "	Robert Hubbard, Middletown.
Tolland "	J. Washington Smith.

The vacancy in Fairfield County, was filled by Mason S. Seymour, of Waterbury.

The Committee appointed to nominate Dissertator to the next Convention, reported the name of Johnson C. Hatch, M. D., of Kent, and he was appointed.

On motion, adjourned to meet at 8 o'clock to-morrow morning.

MAY 10.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Drs. Benjamin M. Fowler, and Fuller were appointed a Committee on Debentures.

The vacancies in the Standing Committee to nominate Professors in the Medical Institution of Yale College, were then filled, by the election of Elijah Middlebrook, M. D., and Norman Lyman, M. D.

The Secretary offered the following resolution which was adopted.

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of the Clerks of the several counties, to report to the Secretary of the State Convention, on the first day of its session, the names, ages, and diseases, of the members of this Society, who may have died during the year preceeding the 1st of April in each year, in their several County Societies, and that the Secretary be directed, to append these statistics to the catalogue of members of the Society in the published proceedings of the Annual Convention.

On motion of Dr. Beach, a Committee of three were appointed to nominate Delegates to the National Convention to meet at Cincinnati, Ohio, on the first Tuesday in May, 1850.

Drs. Webb, Middlebrook, and Beach, were appointed said Committee.

Resolution passed, that a Committee of three be appointed to nominate Delegates to the Convention to revise the Pharmacopœia. of the United States in 1850.

Drs. Collin, Orrin Witter, and Blackman, were appointed said Committee.

The Committee appointed to nominate Delegates to the National Convention at Cincinnati, reported the names of Drs. Archibald Welch, Thomas Mixer, H. A. Grant and Benj. M. Fowler, and they were appointed.

The Committee to report a nomination of Delegates to represent the Conn. Medical Society, in the revision of the Pharmacopœia of the United States in 1850, at Washington reported the names of Drs. Geo. Sumner, Dyer T. Brainard, and N. B. Ives, and they were appointed.

The resolution of the Hartford County Meeting offered by Dr. Hunt, in reference to the change of appropriations of the annual medical tax being called up : on motion, it was referred back to the several county meetings at their next Annual Meetings for their action upon it, and that the Fellows be requested to report to the next State Convention, their views in relation to the proposed change.

On motion of Dr. Childs, the following preamble and resolution were adopted, viz :

Whereas, the Constitution and By-laws of the Medical Society of this State are deemed, by many of its members, to be insufficient to accomplish all the good that is desirable, therefore,

Resolved, That a Committee of one from a County be appointed by this Convention to take into consideration the whole subject, and draft such a plan as they shall think best calculated to advance the interests and usefulness of this society; and that a copy of such plan be forwarded to the Clerk of each County Meeting, previous to their next annual meeting; and that the Fellows of the several County Societies be requested to present the views and wishes of the members of their respective Societies to the next State Convention, in relation to the plan that may be proposed by the Committee appointed by this Convention.

The resolution was discussed and adopted with great unanimity; and the following gentlemen were appointed a Committee, viz :

Hartford County, E. K. Hunt, Hartford; New Haven County, N. B. Ives, New Haven; New London County, Ashbel B. Hall, Norwich; Fairfield County, Samuel Beach, Bridgeport; Windham County, Asa Water, North Woodstock; Litchfield County, J. G. Beckwith, Litchfield; Middlesex County, Ira Hutchinson, Haddam; Tolland County, Orson Wood, Somers.

Said Committee are to correspond with each other, receive such suggestions and communications as may be addressed to them, by the members of the Society, and will be called together by the Chairman, at such place as he may deem most convenient to a majority of the Committee, in the month of March next, to prepare for the consideration and action of the several County Meetings, "such a plan as they shall think best calculated to advance the interests of

the State Society." All communications addressed to them should be sent prior to the 15th of March next.

The resolution of Dr. Hunt, which was referred to the several County Meetings, was re-considered, and referred to the Committee on Dr. Childs' resolution, above named, to be by them considered and reported to the Clerks of the County Meetings.

The Committee appointed by the last Convention, on the discontinuance of granting licenses by the Connecticut Medical Society, reported the following resolution, which was indefinitely postponed, viz:

Resolved, "That the granting of licenses by this Society be abolished."

Dr. Comstock offered a resolution "That the President propound to each member of the Convention present, queries to this effect, Have you any new suggestions to make, or case to relate, which may be of importance to the art and science of Medicine?"

Resolution adopted, and questions propounded to the several members.

On motion of the Treasurer,

Resolved, That a tax of one dollar and fifty cents be laid on each member of the Society, payable on and after the 1st of June, 1840.

Dr. Fowler from the Committee on Delegates made a report, which was accepted and the bill ordered to be paid.

There being no further business, the Convention adjourned sine die.

Attest, JOSIAH G. BECKWITH, *Secretary*.

MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

*FELIX PASCALIS,	New York.
JAMES JACKSON,	Boston, Mass.
JOHN C. WARREN,	" "
*SAMUEL L. MITCHELL,	New York.
*DAVID HOSACK,	" "
*WRIGHT POST,	" "
BENJAMIN SILLMAN,	New Haven.
*GEORGE MCLELLAN,	Philadelphia, Pa.
*JOHN MACKIE,	Providence, R. I.
*CHARLES ELDREDGE,	East Greenwich, R. I.
THEODORE ROMEYN BECK	Albany, N. Y.
*JAMES THATCHER,	Plymouth, Mass.
EDWARD DELAFIELD,	New York.
JOHN DELAMATER,	Cleveland, Ohio.
*WILLIAM P. DEWEES,	Philadelphia, Pa.
*JOSEPH WHITE,	Cherry Valley, N. Y.
JACOB BIGELOW,	Boston, Mass.
WALTER CHANNING,	" "
*PHILIP SYNG PHYSICK,	Philadelphia, Pa.
*LEWIS HEERMANN,	U. S. Navy.
DANIEL DRAKE,	Cincinnati, Ohio.
*HENRY MITCHELL,	Newark, N. Y.
NATHAN RYNO SMITH,	Baltimore, Md.
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*SAMUEL WHITE,	Hudson, N. Y.
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WILLIAM TULLY,	New Haven.
RICHMOND BROWNELL,	Providence, R. I.
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SAMUEL HENRY DICKSON,	New York.
SAMUEL B. WOODWARD,	Northampton, Mass.
*JOHN STEARNS,	New York.
STEPHEN W. WILLIAMS,	Deerfield, Mass.
*HENRY GREEN,	Albany, N. Y.
*GEORGE FROST,	Springfield, Mass.
WILLARD PARKER,	New York.
BENAJAH TICKNOR,	U. S. Navy.
ALDEN MARCH,	Albany, N. Y.
AMOS TWITCHELL,	Kearse, N. H.
CHARLES A. LEE,	New York.
DAVID S. C. H. SMITH,	Providence, R. I.



ORDINARY MEMBERS.

The names of those Members who are exempt from taxation by age, are in italics; the names of those who have been Presidents of the Society, are in capitals.

BARTFORD COUNTY.

ARCHIBALD WELCH, M. D., Chairman.

A. W. BARKNEY, M. D., Clerk.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>HARTFORD, GEORGE SUMNER,
 <i>Henry Holmes, Samuel E. Brewster,</i>
 <i>George H. Hawley, Gardiner W. Russell,</i>
 <i>David Crary, F. W. Ellsworth,</i>
 <i>Benjamin Rogers, E. S. Hunt, John S. Bates,</i>
 <i>H. A. Grant, Norman E. Johnson,</i>
 <i>J. C. Jackson, A. W. Barrows,</i>
 <i>Thomas Miner, M. W. Wilson,</i>
 <i>J. C. Rosing, A. B. C. H. E. B. A. L. D. WELCH.</i>
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 Berlin, Horatio Gridley, E. Franklin, Jr.
 <i>Atte Brewer, Samuel Hart, Lucius Woodruff, E. D. Babcock.</i>
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 <i>Barton, Joseph W. Camp.</i>
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 Canton, Benjamin Casner, Thomas G. Hays.
 <i>Colburn, Russell H. Tiffany, O. S. Freeman.</i>
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 East Windsor, Hiram Watson.
 <i>Road Brook, Marcus L. Fish.</i>
 <i>Hartford, Paul, Joseph Olmsted.</i>
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 Thompsonville, Stephen G. Haley.</p> | <p>FARMINGTON, Amos Thompson, E. W. Carrington, Chauncey Brown.
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 Uxbridge, ——— Rockwell, Wm. H. Shaw.
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 <i>South Glastonbury, Russell Hawley,</i>
 <i>Lucius J. Andrus.</i>
 Eastbury, John Steeking.
 GRANBY, James Case, Jos. F. Iremail.
 North Granby, J. F. Irving.
 East Granby, Chester Hamlin.
 West Granby, James D. Wilson.
 MANCHESTER, William C. Williams,
 <i>William Scott.</i>
 Rocky Hill, Sylvester Bidley.
 Southern, Robert A. White.
 Troyville, Gen. W. Sanford, Charles W. Ensign.
 SCOTTSDALE, Julius S. Barnes, Frederick A. Hart.
 SOUTH WINDSOR, Sidney Rockwell,
 <i>William Wood, Horace C. Gillette.</i>
 STEWART, Asahel L. Russell, Samuel B. Low, Augustus Kelley.
 WATERBURY, E. F. Connor, A. S. Warren.
 WINDHAM, William S. Fierman, Theodore Hill, Graham Lee.
 Windsor Locks, Samuel W. Skinner.
 Windsor, Oliver B. Briggs.</p> |
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NEW HAVEN COUNTY.

REYNOLD WERE, M. D., Chairman.

D. L. DACCETT, M. D. Clerk.

NEW HAVEN, John Shanno, *Ex Off.*,
T. P. Beers, Jonathan Knight, Samuel
Funderburk, T. M. Dew, A. S.
Morse, Charles Hooker, H. E. Par-
son, Nathan B. Ross, E. H. Seelye,
D. H. Moore, E. D. North, J. A. Tol-
son, E. T. Miller, L. A. Thomas,
Levi Ross, Paul A. Jewett, J. T.
Hickman, D. L. Oggett, George O.
Sumner, H. A. Tyler, Henry Rogers,
E. A. Park, N. W. Taylor, Jr., H. A.
Carrington, A. Mundy, W. J. Wal-
ling, K. G. Hubbard.
WATERVILLE, Samuel Lloyd.
PALESTINE, C. S. Thompson, J. H.
Fletcher, W. M. White.
BETHANY, Amos C. Woodward.
BRANTFORD, William L. Lay.
CHESHIRE, A. Z. Dwyer, Nehemiah
Jones.
DERRY, S. H. Collie.
JANESVILLE, Samuel P. Church.
BROWNSVILLE, Amos Bardsley, T.
Jettison.
HARTFORDVILLE, Thomas Stoddard,
Sheldon C. Johnson, Joshua Kendall,
Thomas Stoddard.

EAST HAVEN, John Farnham.
GRIFFITH, Joel Canfield, Eliza Hutch-
inson, Alvin Talbot.
MANSION, Reynolds Webb.
MERRICK, Gardner Barlow.
WEST MERRICK, B. H. Collins.
PALESTINE, C. E. McCarty.
MINNERSVILLE,
MILBURN, Andrew French, Hall Allen,
L. N. Bardsley, G. S. Williams.
NATCHEUCK, J. D. Meers, Timothy
Langdon.
NORTH BRANTFORD, Sheldon Bardsley.
NORTH HAVEN, C. B. Foss.
ORISKANY, Noah Stone, John Lombard.
SARATOGA, A. E. Farrin.
SOUTH BRANTFORD, N. C. Baldwin.
WALLINGFORD, Lyman Parker, B. F.
Burrows.
WATERVILLE, Joseph Porter, Daniel
Porter, Jr., M. C. Loomisworth, G.
E. Platt, W. W. Bodman, John Den-
ton.
WOODBRIDGE, Isaac Goodell, Andrew
Castle.
WILKESVILLE, Henry Rydman.

NEW LONDON COUNTY.

AVERY DOWNER, M. D., Chairman.

JEREMIAH KING, M. D. Clerk.

NEW LONDON, Archibald Mercer, Dyer
T. Bulfinch, Nathaniel S. Perkins,
James Morgan, Isaac G. Porter, Myr-
W. Minor, Charles E. Ames, James
Enger, Seth Smith, C. T. Cook,
— Parsons.
NORWICH, Richard F. Tracy, Worthing-
ton Moxter, Chas. Morgan, Eliza
Dyer, Jr., Eliza Placer, Ben-
jamin F. Smith, Jonathan W. Brooks,
E. F. Barker, Abner B. Hall, John
D. Ford, Robert A. Manwaring, Jer-
emiah King, Edwin Bentley, Ben-
jamin S. Dean.
BOZEMAN, Samuel Johnson.
CHESHIRE, Levi W. Parsons,
Frederick Morgan.
EAST LANS, John L. Smith, Amos P.
Perkins.
FRANKLIN, Abner Woodward.
GROTON, Joseph Durbin.
GROTON, Joseph Durbin.

ROCKFORD, John G. Miner, Elias P.
Cook.
LEBANON, Joseph Comstock, Erasmus
Osgood, Richard F. Green.
LEBANON,
Gale Perry, Rufus W. Matheson.
LEBANON, Vine Smith.
LYNN, Richard Noyes, John Noyes.
PHEASANT FALLS, Wm. W. J. Warren.
MONTICELLO, Epitaph Perkins, Sam-
E. Maynard.
ORISKANY, Isidiah R. Gay, John C.
Bolles.
NORTH STONINGTON, Thomas F. Wal-
ter, Arch Gray.
PERRY, Avery Downer, Elmer E.
Downer.
PHEASANT FALLS, H. W. Cook.
SALAM, John F. Fuller.
STONINGTON, Wm. Hyde, George E.
Palmer, Wm. Hyde, Jr.
MYRICK, Mason Manning.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY.

E. MIDDLEBROOK, M. D., Chairman.

SAMUEL BRACH, M. D., Clerk.

FAIRFIELD, Jeremiah T. Donnan, S. T.
V. R. Ten Broeck.
Gerrysford, Rufus Elderman.
Southport, James Sherwood.
BETHESDA, Samuel Brach, D. H.
Nash, William L. Watson, Frederick
Judson, ———— Donitt.
BROOKFIELD, Noah A. Larey, A. L.
Williams.
DANBURY, R. A. Botsford, E. P. Bennett.
Scribner, H. N. Bennett, J. S. Andrews.
DARTON, Hiram Percival.
KATON, Lloyd Seely, James Baldwin.
HUNTINGTON, James H. Shelton.
MUNROE, Stephen Bulkeley, Salmon H.
Hall.
NEW CANAAN, Samuel S. Noyes,
Lewis Richards.

NEWTON, Cyrenus M. Booth, E.
Lewis, George Judson.
SARWALL, John A. McLean, E. Ke-
nell, Ira Gregory.
BARNES, Charles Graham.
BRIDGEVILLE, Schemish Ferry.
SHEPHERD, Dora W. Northrop.
STAMFORD, Channing Ayres, N. D.
Haight, Robert Lockwood.
STEARNS, William T. Shelton, John
Gooding.
TOWNSEND, ELIJAH MIDDLE-
BROOK, Stephen Middlebrook,
George Dyer, E. S. Middlebrook.
WESTPORT, George Dickinson, J.
January.
WILSON, Sylvester Mead.

WINDHAM COUNTY.

WM. H. COGSWELL, M. D., Chairman.

JAMES B. HATHORN, M. D., Clerk.

BROOKLYN, JAMES B. Whitehead, De-
cid M. Hale, William Woodbridge.
ANDOVER, John H. Simmons.
CANTERBURY, Elijah Baldwin, Jo-
seph Palmer.
CHATHAM, Orela Wiley.
HAMPTON, Dyer Hughes, Jr.
KILLINGLY, Justin Hammond.
North Killingly, Fessie H. Peckham.
South Killingly, David A. Hovey.
West Killingly, David E. Hall, D. S.
Thompson, Mary Baggett.
WILMINGTON, Henry W. Hough,
Thomas W. Perry.
DUNSTON, Charles N. Fuller.
PLAINFIELD, William H. Cogswell.

Plainfield, Central P. O., William H.
Campbell, Elijah Baldwin, Jr.
FOSTER, Hiram Holt, Lewis Wil-
son.
STERLING, Nathan S. Pike.
THURSDAY, Samuel Brown.
VALLEYFORD, Harvey Campbell.
WINDHAM, Chester Mead, De Witt C.
Lathrop.
WILMINGTON, William Witter, John
Hill, Jr.
Sutton, Calvin R. Bramley.
WINDHAM, North Am. Witter.
South Windham, Lorenzo May.
West Windham, Milton Bradford.
Charles H. Rogers.

LITCHFIELD COUNTY.

JOHNSON C. HATCH, M. D., Chairman.

A. M. HUSLEY, M. D., Clerk.

LITCHFIELD, WILLIAM HUEL, Sam-
uel Snell, J. G. Beckwith, George
Seymour, D. E. Burdick, Cha. Vail.
South Freme, Gery H. Miner.

BARNSBORO, F. R. Graham.
FARMINGTON, G. G. Tinsell.
FARMINGTON, Horace Judson.
CANAAN, A. A. Wright, George Adams.

South Canaan, John A. Gillett.	Pigeon Hill, William Woodruff.
Cornwall, David R. North.	Rosbury, Myron Downs.
West Cornwall, Samuel W. Gold,	Salisbury, O. Pharo, W. E. Salisbury.
J. E. Smith.	Zabroldy, Benjamin Welch, Jr.
North Cornwall,	Sharon, Ralph Denney, Chas. C.
Colchester,	Wood.
Gaylord's Bridge, Gamaliel H. St.	Walsworthville, Eustace Bessell, Peter
John.	Boardslee.
Goshen, A. M. Husley.	Warren, Norman Lyman.
Hawthorn,	Windsor, Mary Peters.
Kent, Wells Boardslee, Johnson C.	Wassonville, E. M. Foster.
Hatch, Eliza Osborne.	New Preston, Sidney H. Lyman, Ed-
New Hartness, Center, Leona	ward P. Lyman.
North.	Winchester, Center, James Welch.
New Milford, Adiel Williams, Wm.	Wyckoff P. O., John L. Wake-
B. Lacy.	Schell.
Norfolk, Benjamin Welch, William	Worcester, Russell Sherman, Chas.
W. Welch.	H. Welch.
Plymouth, Samuel T. Salisbury.	Terryville, Charles Eyrington.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY.

GEO. O. JARVIS, M. D., Chairman.

G. C. H. GILBERT, M. D., Clerk.

Middlesex, Richard Warner, Joseph	Hartford, Ira Hutchinson.
Emery, Charles Woodward, William	Hingham, William H. Tremaine.
E. Casey, David Harrison, Hamilton	Killbuckville, Rufus Turner.
Brown, Franklin Woodruff.	Northam, George O. Jarvis, Stephen
CHATHAM, Francis G. Edgerton.	A. Fuller, G. C. H. Gilbert.
Middle Haddam, Albert B. Worthing-	Saybrook, Amos H. King.
ton.	Essex, Alexander H. Hough, Freder-
CHRYSTON, S. W. Turner.	ick W. Shepard.
CLINTON, Deacon H. Hubbard.	Doug. River, John DeLoe.
DUNBAR, Benjamin M. Foster.	WATERMAN, Horace Burr,
EAST HADDAM, Amos M. Hall, Deane	
Williams, Eliza B. Nye.	

TOLLAND COUNTY.

JOHN S. PETERS, M. D., Chairman.

GILBERT H. PIERCE, M. D., Clerk.

TOLLAND, Abiah Ladd, Oliver E.	Mansfield, North, Norman Brigham,
Isaham, Gilbert H. Preston.	Wm. H. Richardson, Albert Morrison.
ANDOVER, Adonijah White.	South Mansfield, Earl Scott.
BOSTON, Otis Hunt, Charles F. Sam-	Somerville, Oren Wood, Erasmus E.
ner.	Hamilton, William E. Woods.
COLUMBIA, Harrison McIntosh.	Stafford, East, William N. Clark,
CONVENT, North, Eleanor Hunt.	Ernest S. Beebe.
South Convent, Timothy Dimock.	Stafford, West, Joshua C. Budget,
ELANDVILLE, Allen Hyde, J. H. Man-	Union, E. Lindsey, S. F. Lindsey.
ning.	Vernon, Rufus Woodruff, Alden
HARTFORD, JOHN S. PETERS, Otis C.	Skinner, C. E. Hammond.
White, Elijah A. Woodward.	Nicholsville, Benjamin M. Cummings.
	WILLIAMSTON, Francis L. Dickinson.

SUMMARY OF ORDINARY MEMBERS.

	TOTAL.	SUB-TOTAL.	TOTAL.
Hartford County,	70	4	74
New Haven County,	88	6	94
New London County,	49	8	57
Fairfield County,	41	4	45
Litchfield County,	38	13	51
Windham County,	23	2	25
Middlesex County,	24	3	27
Tolland County,	24	5	29
Total,	347	45	392

NUMBER OF MEMBERS IN FORMER YEARS.

	1792	1829	1834	1849
Hartford County,	48	59	66	74
New Haven County,	37	43	48	54
New London County,	—	32	35	37
Windham County,	23	30	34	34
Fairfield County,	25	34	35	45
Litchfield County,	54	40	32	40
Middlesex County,	32	39	38	34
Tolland County,	39	26	34	30
Total,	255	263	254	280

NOTE. Former Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society are permanent members of the Annual Convention, having the privilege of attending all meetings, and performing all the duties, of attending members, except that of casting their votes. And all members of the Society are invited, by the by-laws, to be present at all meetings of the Convention, and partake of the dinner on the first day of the session.

DUTIES OF CLERKS.

To wait County Meetings.

To record the proceedings of the County Meetings.

To collect the taxes, and pay the same to the Treasurer.

* To transmit to the Secretary a list of the elected Fellows, and the person recommended as a candidate for a gratuitous course of lectures, immediately after the County Meetings, for publication.

To make certificates of Fellowship, to be transmitted to the Secretary, on or before the first day of the Convention.

To transmit duplicate lists of the Members of the Society, to the Secretary and Treasurer, on or before the first day of the Convention, on the penalty of five dollars for each neglect.

To return to the Treasurer the names of delinquent Members of the Society.

To report to the Secretary of the State Convention, on the first day of its session, the names, ages, and diseases, of the members of this Society, who may have died during the year preceding the 1st of April in such year, in their several County Societies.

DISSERTATIONS READ IN CONVENTIONS.

1794. Dr. S. H. P. Lee, on Asthenal Bilious Fever.
 " Dr. Gideon Shepherd, on the Properties of Opium.
 1795. Dr. F. P. Oviere, on the Preparations of Antimony.
 " Dr. Theodorus Betts, on the different species of Colin.
 1796. Dr. F. P. Oviere, on the Contagion of Yellow Fever.
 " Dr. S. H. P. Lee, on Cynanche Tonsillaris.
 " Dr. Lewis Collins, on the most eligible mode of increasing Medical Knowledge in this State.
 " Dr. Gideon Shepherd, on the same subject.
 1798. Dr. Samuel Hopkins, case of Bilious Concretion.
 " Dr. Jared Potter, " An Essay."
 1799. Dr. Theodorus Clark, a Dissertation.
 1800. Dr. Nathaniel Dwight, on Lunacy.
 1804. Dr. Samuel Willard, on the Sudford Mineral Waters.
 1817. Dr. W. R. Fowler, on the deleterious effects of Ardent Spirits.
 1818. Dr. William Basl, on Ergot.
 1820. Dr. Thomas Minor, on Typhus Fever.
 1821. Dr. Samuel Rockwell, on Uterine Hemorrhage.
 1822. Dr. William Tully, on the Yellow Fever at Middletown.
 1823. Dr. Dyer T. Brauer.
 1827. Dr. Samuel B. Woodward, on the Biography of the Physicians of the State.
 1829. Dr. George Sumner, on Extra-uterine Conception.
 1830. Dr. Charles Hooker, on Diseases of the Ear.
 1835. Dr. Benjamin Welch, Jr., on the Vitality of the Blood.
 1836. Dr. E. H. Bishop, "Influence of Moral Emotions on Disease."
 1837. Dr. Archibald Welch, on Scarlet Fever.
 1838. Dr. Isaac G. Porter, on the disease commonly denominated Spinal Irritation.
 1839. Dr. Henry Bronson, on the Mental qualifications necessary to a Physician.
 1840. Dr. Richard Warner, on the advantages of prompt and efficient practice in Acute Diseases.
 1841. Dr. Amariah Brigham, on Insanity as a subject of Medical Jurisprudence.
 1842. Dr. Charles Woodward, on Uterine Irritation.
 1843. Dr. Pinckney W. Kilworth, on Puleitis.
 1844. Dr. Worthington Hooker, on the respect due to the Medical Profession, and the reasons that it is not awarded by the community.
 1845. Dr. Nathan B. Foss, on Laryngismus Stridulus.
 1846. Dr. Theodorus Sill, Observations on Typhus Fever.
 1847. Dr. E. K. Hunt, on the Importance of a Medical Organization, and the advantages resulting from it.
 1848. Dr. B. F. Barker, Remarks on some forms of disease of the Cervix Uteri.
 1849. Dr. Alvan Talcott, on Hygiene.

HYGIENE.

BY ALVAN TALCOTT, M. D., OF GUILFORD.

MR. PRESIDENT, AND FELLOWS OF THIS CONVENTION :

The prevention and the cure of disease, are alike the province of the medical art. Although it is to the cure of diseases that our attention as medical men is, and should be, mainly directed; yet I crave your indulgence while, on this occasion, I throw out a few remarks upon the prevention of disease, and the preservation of health. And I shall not allude to those great measures of sanitary reform which are gaining the attention of cities and of states, and which are alike the glory and the happiness of the present age; but I shall confine my remarks to those facts, principles and measures, which we, in our individual capacity, daily contemplate.

As physiologists we believe that the natural condition of the human system is health, and that disease is a condition incidental, and superinduced by some agency that disturbs and deranges the system. Health consists in the integrity of structure and function of all the organs of the system. It is the calm, equable, almost unconscious flow of the stream of life. And this, we may well assume, as the condition of this curious and wonderful machine, when it came from the hands of its Creator, and was pronounced "very good."

We cannot, it is true, give our assent to the doctrine advanced by some ardent minds in our day, that in all cases "it is a sin to be sick;" still we are forced to admit, that a large proportion of the diseases that afflict our species, do originate in the transgression, on our own part, or on that of our progenitors, of some of the great physiological laws of life.

Man is furnished by his Creator with certain powers and faculties, bodily and mental, adapted, in their legitimate exercise,

to promote his health and his happiness; and it is the perversion and abuse of these powers and faculties, that bring on disease and pain. Scarcely a day passes in our professional pursuits, which does not present us with cases where disease is the direct and manifest result of the infraction of nature's laws; and in many other cases where the connection is not so obvious, we may, upon investigation, trace back the chain of causes till we reach a similar origin.

If these views are correct, do they not lay before us a wide field for the exercise of our science and skill, and add new importance to our profession. If that man is accounted a benefactor to his species who makes two blades of grass grow where one grew before, surely must he be so esteemed who can show how to prevent the ruddy glow of health from being supplanted by the sickly paleness of disease, and can forestall the anguish, the misery and the despair, of a hopeless decline.

Our profession and station in life give us influence in this particular, which no other class of men can exercise. The opinions we express, and the example we give, cannot fail to produce a deep and permanent, though perhaps a silent, influence, upon the intelligent portions of society. At least shall we be free from the charge of interested motives, in recommending to the community that course of life which is dictated by a regard to their own best interests.

I believe it is generally admitted that public health is deteriorating. Acute diseases, indeed, are probably less frequent, and certainly less fatal, than formerly. Some, as small pox, are quite dismissed of their terrors, and all are rendered more manageable; so that at the present day, as compared with former periods, the per centage of deaths has diminished, and the mean duration of human life has vastly increased. But notwithstanding these facts we must still admit that disease is increasing in the community. Few among us, and especially of the female portion of community, enjoy an uninterrupted flow of health. Chronic diseases, of various grades and forms, are rife among us. Scrophula, in its Protean shapes, is fearfully prevalent, and indeed lies at the root of a large portion of the maladies of our day, either hurrying the patient to speedy death in some of its more malignant forms, as Phthisis or Cancer, or, in its milder

shapes, poisoning the fountains of life, and embittering all its enjoyments. How many cases can every physician call to mind, occurring in his experience, of diseases manifesting themselves in the organic nerves, as neuralgia, spinal irritation, and palpitation of the heart; how many, of derangements of the functions of digestion, sanguification, and nutrition; how many, of tubercular formations in the thoracic and abdominal organs; how many, of that indefinable languor and torpor of all the animal and vital functions, which we designate by the comprehensive term, *ill-health*.

Who can estimate the full import of the term: the days of sadness, and nights of weariness, that measure its duration; the utter prostration of all the energies, mental and physical; the wreck of intellect and fancy, of hope, happiness, and temper, which follow in its train? The most exalted genius is prostrated in the dust, and the highest flights of fancy sink into the imbecility of childhood. He whose capacious mind could grapple with the sublimest truths, and spread them forth with an energy and an eloquence breathing from his lips, and flashing from his eye, that move, captivate and persuade, is now able to rise no higher than the recital of his oft-told infirmities. And in humbler life, she who was the head of the domestic circle, whose smile was reflected by all the happy inmates of her family, and who was the very personification of active benevolence, is touched by the enchanter's wand, in the withering prostration of protracted disease, and the fountains of domestic happiness are dried up, and the light and joyousness which diffused themselves wherever she moved, are changed to sadness and gloom.

Can we, or can we not, do something to alleviate all this mental and physical suffering? In many of the affections of this class, as they occur in our practice, we are constrained to admit the imperfection, if not the inefficiency, of the resources of our art for effecting their removal. Should we not, then, as philosophers, as philanthropists, as true and enlightened physicians, exert all the influence we can command, to arrest the development of those forms of disease which it sometimes baffles all our skill to cure.

What, then, are some of the agencies efficient in the production of disease, which are more or less subject to our control?

It is universally admitted that some diseases are congenital, or we might say with more correctness, ante-genital. Infants have been born with all the marks of small pox, the disease having been communicated by the mother and run its course before birth. The influence of syphilis, also, in affecting the embryo, and generally destroying its vitality, is too familiar to medical men to need a remark. And in the case of many other diseases popularly termed hereditary, though the child may not inherit from its parents the disease actually developed, still it does inherit certain constitutional traits and tendencies, which may be deemed the germ of disease, to be unfolded in subsequent life. As examples, we may specify mania, epilepsy, palsy, phthisis, scrofula. Every intelligent physician considers a tendency to these diseases to be transmitted from parent to child, and expects to see their development when age and other circumstances favor. I believe the brain and the lungs are the organs which are most usually the seat of these hereditary tendencies.

But farther than all this, I think we are not without evidence that various states and conditions of the parents which do not of themselves constitute disease, exert an important and permanent influence upon the delicate organization of the foetus. The doctrine sanctioned by remote antiquity, that the maternal imagination and maternal longings are competent to produce in the offspring those external marks cold war, we shall most of us reject, though we shall thereby incur the charge of grievous heresy from the venerable matrons who have these matters in their special keeping. Be this as it may, we can show, by evidence that cannot be disputed, that the health and temperament of children, and even the cast of their mental faculties, are greatly influenced by the habits and practices of their parents. It is notorious that the children of parents who abandon themselves to habits of intemperance and sensual excess, are often born with feeble constitutions, puny, pale, emaciated, the living pictures of premature old age, dragging out a few months or years of hopeless suffering, and sinking into a premature grave. And even when life is not destroyed, the delicate organization of the brain is seriously, and often irrecoverably deranged, exhibiting all the grades of enfeebled intellect down to

hopeless idiosy. The children of such parents, when not idiotic, are deficient in bodily and mental energy, they are incapable of self-control, and are predisposed, by their very organization, to have cravings for the same indulgences to which their parents yielded. The same remarks are applicable to all habits in parents, which derange the cerebral functions and depress the vital energies. Excess in eating and in sleep, and habits of indolence and self-indulgence, as well as intemperance and sexual excess, are sure to tell upon the organization of the progeny. All excesses have their penalties, and these penalties are not only inflicted upon the transgressor, but are also "visited upon the children to the third and fourth generation."

As the first means, then, of securing health and soundness of body and mind in their offspring, let parents look well to themselves. As they value a healthy organization, not only in their own persons, but also in their children and their children's children, let them use all suitable means to restore, preserve and invigorate, their own health. Especially let them shun all habits of self-indulgence and all sensual excess, and every thing that lowers the tone of the vital energies, using all their faculties, bodily and mental, as not abusing them.

And let those who contemplate entering upon the interesting and responsible relations of married life, regard as a consideration never to be overlooked in the selection of a partner for life, soundness of constitution and perfection of bodily health. Especially let not those be united in this relation who have the same constitutional taint, since, in such a case, the defect in question will most noisily appear with four-fold energy in their offspring. Let the principle, established by sound philosophy, be admitted and acted upon, that parents of opposite constitutions, temperaments, and even complexions, who are not too old nor too young, and who are not, however remotely, akin by blood, are those who in the ordinary course of things are most usually blessed with healthy children.

Again, the mismanagement of infancy and childhood is a frequent cause of disease. Infants, when ushered into the world, are considered to have undergone a long fast, and are therefore presumed to be hungry; consequently, pap, and porridge, and similar appliances, are put in busy requisition, and if the child

cries from an overloaded stomach, this is proof positive that he is suffering from hunger, and the process of stuffing is followed up *ad libitum*. If the infant escapes these dangers and reaches the age of three or four months, instead of being confined for its sustenance to that life-giving fountain which a wise Providence has furnished for the nourishment of helpless infancy, he is allowed to partake of all kinds of food which he can be induced to swallow; food, healthy, it may be, for the adult stomach, but hurtful and even dangerous to the delicate organs of infancy. As years steal on, cakes and condiments, pies and pastry, nuts, fruits, and other crannies, are alternately or in combination brought to bear upon the organs of digestion; and to crown all, the derangements which these and all other disturbing forces produce, are increased and confirmed by the various drugs and doses for such cases made and provided. The whole catalogue of syrups and boluses, cordials and elixirs, is put in requisition, for the purpose, as one might imagine, of punishing nature for thus resenting the outrages committed upon her laws.

As advancing childhood prompts to active exercise, the girls are, to be sure, allowed to exercise their fingers in running over the threads of embroidery, or the keys of the piano; but free, unrestrained exercise in the open air is entirely out of the question, for it is not genteel for girls to romp in the street, and besides, the sun and air would spoil their delicate complexions.

Furthermore, the human frame, for its well-being, requires air for respiration. By this agent is the blood, as it returns from its circulation throughout the system, purified of its carbon, and fitted to be sent again on its mission, carrying life, health and nutrition, to all parts of the economy. Of the physiology of respiration, the compositions and decompositions which it accomplishes, its *modus operandi*, and its ultimate results, I need not speak, in presence of the intelligent professional men who hear me. But if I could speak, trumpet-tongued, to the community in which we move, of the lamentable results of the want of an adequate supply of air, I should be doing that community a service. Surely this element is not so difficult of access, or so limited in supply, that one need be put on short allowance. If we will but give the respiratory muscles

full play, they will elevate the ribs and depress the diaphragm, and the vital fluid will rush in. But the bonds of fashion, in the case of one moiety of the community, confine the chest, so as to prevent the expansion of the ribs, and thus diminish, by one half, the quantity of air admitted.

This pressure upon the parietes of the chest, besides its effect in impeding respiration, seriously injures the organs provided to give nourishment to the infant. And the retracted nipple, and the obliterated lactiferous ducts, and the atrophy of the whole gland, which sometimes render the office of giving sustenance to the infant being utterly and forever impossible, with the whole train of inflammation and abscess which are the necessary result, are the sad consequences of transgressing, in this particular, the laws of our being. By pressure we can obliterate arteries and veins, and can cause the absorption of bone itself; and ought we to expect that the delicate structure of the mammary glands will sustain this severe, this unremitting pressure with impunity. It is the present fashion of dress that we condemn, and not the abuse of that fashion; and its injurious results which we have described, though unquestionably aggravated by tight-lacing, are not thereby produced. When it shall become the fashion to remove all the pressure of dress from the female breast, then will nearly all the suffering now incident to lactation, be among the things that were.

But to return from our digression, not only should the system be permitted to exercise the mechanism of breathing free and unrestrained, by giving full play to the respiratory muscles, but the air itself should be pure. All noxious miasms and exhalations from animal and vegetable decompositions should be avoided, and perfect cleanliness in and around our dwellings scrupulously maintained. Our apartments, and especially our sleeping apartments, should be clean, dry, and sufficiently spacious. By these means will the air be pure, but in order to preserve its purity, it must be often changed. The respiration of the same air cannot be repeated more than three times without immediate danger to life, and not at all, without injury to the system. The free ventilation of our apartments then, is absolutely essential to the purity of the vital element; and we regret that the fashions of the day are so much at variance

with this solitary practice. The old-fashioned fire-places of our ancestors, well filled with blazing wood, surmounted by the massive stone chimney, whose dimensions will allow the children, from their favorite position in the chimney corner, to prosecute the study of practical astronomy, have all passed away, and the age of anthracite and of air-tight stoves has come in their stead. Every fire-place must be hermetically closed, every door luted, and every window wedged; and if people can so manage that no cold can get in, and no heat can get out, they consider that they shall have accomplished — a great saving of fuel. Meanwhile the air is rendered unhealthy by being raised to too high a temperature, and corrupted by repeated respiration without the possibility of its renewal; while minute particles of dust, which an open chimney would carry away, float in countless myriads in the atmosphere, irritating the lungs, as well as obstructing the pores of the skin, and interfering with the mutual reactions of the air and the blood in the minute ramifications of the lungs. I have been in school rooms where the lungs almost refuse to admit the oppressive, corrupted air, and where the very walls became so contaminated, that a ventilation for hours could alone remove the sensation of closeness and impurity.

Again, scarcely inferior in importance to the functions of the lungs, are the functions of the skin. A vast amount of matter, constituting the waste of the system, is thrown off by insensible perspiration. An animal coated over with varnish, will speedily die. And if the pores of the skin become obstructed through want of cleanliness, disease must necessarily ensue. Let free and frequent ablutions with water be resorted to in infancy and childhood, and continued through life. This practice when rendered habitual, becomes grateful to the feelings, and thus effectually removes that disease under which so many in our day labor—a moral hydrophobia. Let the inner garments at all seasons be of cotton, and be often changed; and let under-garments of silk and flannel be relinquished to the exclusive enjoyment of the phthical and the rheumatic. Let vigorous exercise and brisk friction keep up the action of the cutaneous nerves and blood vessels, and let at least one half of the attention and care be bestowed upon the surface of the

human system, which the good farmer is wont to bestow upon his horses and his cattle.

The importance of exercising due discretion in the articles of food and drink, is too obvious to require much comment. Let the food be simple and plain, abundant but not excessive in quantity, with a suitable mixture of animal and vegetable food. As drinks, let all alcoholic and vinous liquors be totally discarded, as pernicious in their tendency and dangerous in their use. They may in some cases of disease be employed as medicines, but with extreme caution. Tea and coffee can be used by some without much injury, but persons of nervous and irritable temperament should abstain entirely from both. For all, the best and most healthy drink is pure cold water, and it becomes also by use the most grateful and agreeable. Tobacco in all its forms deranges the tone of the stomach, impairs nervous energy, and acts as a drain on the system; and the habitual use of the article admits of no apology or excuse.

I should fail to do justice to my subject were I to neglect to call your attention to a point which has no unimportant bearing upon public health. I allude to the indiscriminate drugging and medication so fashionable at the present day. We have read of the golden age, the silver age, the iron age, it is reserved to us to live in the *dozing age*. Multitudes of nostrums, each warranted to "cure all the ills that flesh is heir to," are daily spread before us by the public press, and gulped down into the public stomach. A decoction of any root or plant, from Yellow-doek upward, sweetened with New Orleans molasses, and flavored with essence of wintergreen, will sell readily at a dollar a bottle, and will call forth an array of the great names of the land in praise of its sovereign virtues. Such a preparation may have the negative merit of not doing much harm, unless it be to the pocket. But when we see preparations of Arsenic, advertised, and sold, and used, as popular remedies, by those who are utterly ignorant as to what article they are tampering with; when we find various irritating drugs put forth in the shape of pills, and recommended to the use of the sick and the well of all ages from tender infancy upwards, as "good at all times, dose 2 to 20," we are constrained to believe that the community may sustain injury.

For ourselves, we cannot be induced to believe that human nature is essentially nothing but a tissue of disease, or that all the health of which mankind are capable is bottled up in certain mystic bottles, with the maker's name blown in the glass; and that just in proportion to the quantity swallowed will be the quantity of health which the system will contain.

The human system is a curious and wonderful machine, delicate in its parts, intricate in its arrangements; and to understand the structure, action, relations, and sympathies, of all its organs and tissues, may well be the labor of a life. Especially will it task the most vigorous intellect, to discover the seat, causes, and tendencies of diseased action, and the adaptation of the various remedies to the ever-varying phases of disease.

It is far better to obviate causes of disease than to remedy the results, to prevent the action of disturbing forces than to correct those disturbances when produced. And when the genius of disease display themselves to be able to do the right thing at the right time, and neither too little nor too much,—so to select and apply the remedies, as to remove disease *cito, tuto, jucunde*, speedily, safely, and with no untoward results, requires far-reaching forethought, knowledge, and skill.

Such is ever the aim of the true physician. He knows of no universal panacea, no stereotype mode of practice applicable to all diseases from Apoplexy to Zona, and adequate, by some indefinable magical process, to uproot them all. The veritable *Elixir vite*, which in spite of man's follies, his excesses, and his vices, is to render him immortal upon earth, he has not yet discovered. He is content to be the assistant and guide of nature, to meet her in her wanderings from the paths of virtue and truth, and urge her to retrace her devious steps, and to fix her eye with a firmer steadfastness of purpose upon the enduring landmarks of moderation and virtue.

An important point which must not be overlooked in this connection, is the due control of the passions and mental affections. Man is a complex being composed of mind and matter, and these component parts mutually act and react upon each other. A violent fit of anger, or any other intense mental emotion, may derange, even fatally, the functions of the stomach, the heart, or the brain. But it is the depressing passions,

anxiety, grief, and disappointment, that are especially to be noticed as the causes of complicated and protracted disease. The weight of domestic cares, the ordering and management of household affairs, has broken down the health of many an excellent wife and mother, and doomed her to drag out a miserable existence, a constant victim to that most annoying of all evils, ill-health.

The youthful portion of community, at a period of their lives at once the most interesting and the most critical, are exposed to a danger of which few except medical men can realize the magnitude or the extent. The premature and unnatural indulgence of those passions and propensities which rise into existence at this period, saps the foundation of the constitution, and sows the seeds of infirmities and diseases which cease not to produce their melancholy fruit while life endures. The blighting of the bud of promise all can witness; the secret works at the root, it may require a practiced eye to detect. How many of the cases of chronic disease of the heart, the lungs, and the digestive organs; of chorea, epilepsy, hysteria, and the long list of nervous affections; of the loss of memory and the weakening of the intellect, down to complete and hopeless idiocy, owe their secret but real origin to this prolific cause. Unnatural indulgences of the kind we are contemplating meet with their just and inevitable punishment in this life, in the derangement of structure or annihilation of function in the organs abused, or in the more lamentable result of transmitting to posterity, from generation to generation, enfeebled minds and decrepit bodies, until the very race and name of the transgressor is rooted out of existence.

Nor are unnatural or illicit indulgences the only forms of abuse that should meet our censure. Some of the diseases to which persons in married life are subject, owe their origin to excesses of a kindred nature. Whence arise those numerous cases of uterine disease, of so-called spinal irritation, and the various nervous affections, which task our time and skill as physicians, and from some forms of which a large proportion of females in married life are the constant or occasional sufferers? Do they not arise, to a greater extent than is generally suspected, from a real, though perhaps unconscious infraction of na-

ture's laws? Would not the prevalence of enlightened views with respect to these and all the laws of our being prevent a vast amount of suffering? And may we not expect that a light heart and a cheerful temper, with a rigid and hearty adherence to the rules of virtue, sobriety, and moderation, will in the ordinary course of things be attended with health?

As an efficient means of counteracting the vicious tendencies of the age, we would urge increased attention to the cultivation of the intellectual powers. Let our youth be taught to reason, to think, to compare, to judge, as of more consequence than the display of all the genteel accomplishments and fashionable frivolities of the day. Give their minds at all times something to do. The most effectual method of preventing the growth of the weeds of vice, is to pre-occupy the ground with the plants of virtue. True, the mental powers should not be overtasked. Intense and protracted mental application is liable to produce disease, and hard students often become dyspeptics. The mind requires relaxation. The bow that is never unbent loses its elasticity. Mental application should be alternated with bodily exercise, and bodily exercise with mental application. All the powers and faculties should be cultivated in harmonious concert, giving to each its due development, so as to constitute the *stronger sex*, with vigorous body and well disciplined mind, with intelligence to see the beauty, order, and harmony, of the Creator's works, and with powers and energies sufficient to perform the duties, sustain the trials, and encounter the dangers, incident to humanity. Let us then, if the views which I have advanced are correct, use our influence to usher in the dawn of a brighter day. Let us impress it upon the circle in which we move, by precept and by example, that it is only by acting in harmony with the laws of our being, only in subjecting the material to the spiritual, the animal to the intellectual, and all to the control and guidance of enlightened wisdom, that we can hope to acquire and maintain that greatest of all earthly blessings, *mens sana in corpore sano*.

PROCEEDINGS

AT THE

FIFTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

CONNECTICUT MEDICAL SOCIETY,

MAY, 1859,

TOGETHER WITH THE NAMES OF THE

OFFICERS OF THE CONNECTICUT MEDICAL SOCIETY,

FROM ITS ORGANIZATION TO THE PRESENT TIME,

A LIST OF MEMBERS AND THE ADDRESS.

HARTFORD:

FREES OF CARE, TIFFANY AND COMPANY,

1859.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

GEORGE SUMNER, M. D., President.

RUFUS BLAKEMAN, M. D., Vice President.

V. M. DOW, M. D., Treasurer.

JOSIAH G. BECKWITH, M. D., Secretary.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Committee of Examination.

GEORGE SUMNER, M. D., *ex officio*.

ALVAN TALCOTT, M. D.

HIRAM HOLT, M. D.

ORSON WOOD, M. D.

P. A. JEWETT, M. D.

BENJAMIN WELCH, M. D.

Committee to nominate Physicians to the Retreat for the Insane.

WORTHINGTON HOOKER, M. D.

ASHBEL WOODWARD, M. D.

ORRIN WITTER, M. D.

WILLIAM WITTER, M. D.

RUFUS BLAKEMAN, M. D.

Committee to nominate Professors in the Medical Institution of Yale College.

ALDEN SKINNER, M. D.

ELIJAH MIDDLEBROOK, M. D.

NORMAN LYMAN, M. D.

JOHNSON C. HATCH, M. D.

JOSIAH G. BECKWITH, M. D.

*At the Annual Convention of the President and Fellows of
the Connecticut Medical Society, held in the Medical Col-
lege, in the City of New Haven, May 8, 1850.*

The President being absent, the Convention was called to order by the Vice President, when the certificates of the election of Fellows from the several counties were presented by the Secretary and referred to a committee consisting of Drs. Webb, Warner, Downing, Beach, Hawley, Denning, and White, who reported the following roll of members:

HARTFORD COUNTY.

Levi Woodruff, M. D., New Britain.
Arthur Riving, M. D., Sayfield.
*John Shackley, M. D., Eastbury.
M. W. Wilson, M. D., Hartford.
G. B. Hawley, M. D., Hartford.

NEW HAVEN COUNTY.

Reynold Webb, M. D., Madison.
*D. B. Collar, M. D., H. Meriden.
H. B. Bishop, M. D., New Haven.
P. A. Jewett, M. D., New Haven.
Jest Goodrich, M. D., Guilford.

NEW LONDON COUNTY.

Thomas B. Denning, M. D., Preston.
*Wm. Hyde, Jr., M. D., Newington.
Clarence Baggett, M. D., Norwich.
*Hiram Manning, M. D., Mystic.
D. T. Brewster, M. D., New London.

FARMINGTON COUNTY.

F. J. Johnson, M. D., Bellington.
James Burdwell, M. D., Southington.
George Beckman, M. D., Westport.
Elijah Middlebrook, M. D., Trumbull.
Samuel Bacon, M. D., Bridgeport.

MIDDLETOWN COUNTY.

Richard Warner, M. D., Middletown.
Dennis Williams, M. D., E. Haddam.
Kath. Baker, M. D., Day River.

TOLLAND COUNTY.

NOVA C. White, M. D., Middletown.
H. M. Converse, M. D., Rockville.
Timothy Dunckley, M. D., Ansonia.

WATERBURY COUNTY.

Joseph A. Barry, M. D., W. Killingly.
Samuel Brown, M. D., Thompson.
Nathan S. Pike, M. D., Stratford.
Wm. Watson, M. D., Halloway.
David E. Hall, M. D., H. Killingly.

LOUISIANA COUNTY.

Marky Peters, M. D., Windfall.
Ralph Denning, M. D., Sharon.
James Wynn, M. D., H. Woodford.
D. H. St. John, M. D., Gaylord's Bridge.
J. Edward Sparks, M. D., H. Cheshire.

The report of the committee from the last Convention, submitting rules of order for the consideration of the Convention, was then read, and on motion adopted for the use of the present Convention.

Then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year; when

GEORGE SUMNER, M. D. was re-elected President.

RUFUS BLAKEMAN, M. D., " Vice President.

V. M. DOW, M. D., Treasurer.

J. G. BECKWITH, M. D., Secretary.

Dr. P. A. Jewett and Judson were appointed a Committee on Unfinished Business.

The Treasurer presented his report, which was read, accepted, and referred to an Auditing Committee consisting of Drs. Warner, Woodruff, Bishop, Brainard, Denning, Witter, Middlebrook and White.

Abstract of Treasurer's Report.—Financial Summary.

Cash in Treasury,		\$123 66½
Due from Clerks, good and bad,	\$1,343 81	
Deducting one-third of the whole for bad debts, commissions, statements, &c.	447 94	895 87
Leaves a balance of		\$1,018 93½

The Society owes,

For outstanding debentures,	\$256 00
To J. B. Wilcomb, overpayment,	4 43½
Balance in favor of Society,	718 48
	\$1,018 93½

Of the outstanding debentures,

Amount issued in May last,	\$156 00
Redeemed within the year,	\$228 37½
Excess redeemed over amount issued,	70 37½
	\$228 37½

Dr. Jewett, from the Committee on Unfinished Business, reported that the only business which came before the present Convention from the last, was the action of the several counties on the report of the committee appointed by the Convention of 1849, on

alterations and amendments to the Constitution and By-laws of the Connecticut Medical Society.

Report accepted and committee discharged.

Voted, That the papers presented by the Treasurer be referred to the Auditing Committee.

Drs. Judson, St. John and Burgess were appointed a Committee on Debentures.

Drs. Brainard, Hawley, Blackman and Witter were appointed a committee to report the names of Delegates to the National Convention in May 1851.

Drs. Webb, Wilson, Hyde, Welch, Bowen, Sherwood, Baker and Dimock, on gratuitous students.

Drs. Jewett, Middlebrook, Stocking, Smith, Hall, Williams and Cowles, on honorary degrees and honorary membership.

Dr. Brainard, from Committee on Delegates to the National Convention, reported the names of Rufus Blackman, P. A. Jewett, Worthington Hooker and J. G. Rockwith.

Report accepted and they were accordingly appointed.

Drs. Brainard, Hawley, Bishop, Beach, Peters, Pike, Warner and Dimock were then appointed to report the names of a Dissector for the next Convention.

Dr. Witter then presented the report of the proceedings of the Committee of Examination, which was read, accepted, and ordered to be placed on file.

Dr. Brainard, from the Committee appointed to nominate a Dissector to the next Convention, reported the name of Frederick J. Judson, M. D., of Bridgeport, as Dissector. Dr. Judson, having stated to the Convention that the state of his health might render the fulfillment of his appointment impracticable, the report was recommended to the committee, whereupon they amended the report by inserting the name of V. M. Dow, M. D., as his substitute.

Report accepted.

Dr. Jewett, from the Committee on Honorary Degrees and Honorary Membership, reported the names of Dr. Merrill W. Williams, of New York city, and Adolphus White, of Andover, for the honorary degree of Doctor of Medicine, to be recommended to the President and Fellows of Yale College for appointment. Also the name of James M. Smith, M. D., of Springfield, Mass., for honorary membership.

Report accepted, and on balloting it appeared that they were severally elected as recommended by the Committee.

On motion, the Convention adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

Three o'clock, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

John C. Hatch, M. D., read a Dissertation on the Importance of a Knowledge of the Principles of Medical Jurisprudence to the Physician.

On motion of Dr. Bosch, voted, That the thanks of this Convention be tendered to Dr. Hatch for his able and interesting address, and that it be published with the proceedings of the Convention.*

The Convention then proceeded to fill the vacancies in the standing committees, as follows:

In the Committee of Examination, by the election of P. A. Jewett M. D., and Benjamin Welch, M. D.

On motion, the balloting was postponed until Thursday morning.

On motion of Dr. Wilson, the Convention then proceeded to consider the action of the several counties on the report of the Committee on the alterations and amendments to the Constitution and By-laws of the Society.

Voted, That the report be considered by sections.

The Secretary then read the first section of the report, increasing the number of Fellows from five to ten, excepting in the counties of Middlesex and Tolland, which were increased from three to six.

After some discussion, the following amendment was proposed by Dr. Bishop, having been passed at the annual meeting of the New Haven County Medical Society, viz:

"That the members of each county may appoint a number of Fellows in the proportion of one Fellow to every eight members of such county who shall have paid all taxes which may have been duly laid by the Society, or who shall have been legally exempted from such payment; provided, that no County Society shall be entitled to more than eight nor less than three members."

After the resolution and the amendment had been discussed, Dr. Jewett proposed the following amendment to the amendment of Dr. Bishop, viz:

That each county be allowed one delegate to every five tax paying members; but that no county be allowed more than eight nor less than five members.

On motion of Dr. Coning, the proposed amendments were laid upon the table.

* The printing and distribution of the proceedings have been delayed several weeks by the Secretary, in consequence of not having before received a copy of the address which was requested by the Convention.

On motion of Dr. Winter, the whole subject was indefinitely postponed.

On motion, the Convention adjourned to meet at 8 o'clock A. M. of Thursday.

Thursday, May 26th.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

On motion, proceeded to fill the remainder of the vacancies in the standing committees.

The vacancies in the Standing Committee to nominate Physicians to the Retreat, by the election of William Winter, M. D., and Rufus Blakeman, M. D.

In the Standing Committee to nominate Teachers in the Medical Institution of Yale College, by the election of Johnson C. Bush, M. D., and J. G. Beckwith, M. D.

Dr. Webb, from the Committee on Gratuities Students, reported that the following gentlemen were recommended from the several counties, viz:

Hartford County,	——— Warner, East Windsor.
New London County,	Orlando Brown.
Windham County,	Gideon B. Perry.
Lockfield County,	Samuel Collins, Jr., Litchfield.
Middlesex County,	Richard M. Baile.
New Haven County,	Henry Emory.
Fairfield County,	Storer Hall, Newell.

The vacancy in Tolland County was filled by the name of Phileas Skiller, of Saybrook.

Dr. Warner, from the Committee on the Treasurer's report, made a report, which was read, accepted, and ordered to be printed.

On motion of Dr. Jewett, the rules of order reported by the Committee on the Constitution and By-Laws, were adopted as the standing rules of the Society, and ordered to be published with the proceedings of the Convention.

Dr. Judson, from the Committee on Debentures, made a report, which was accepted, and the bill ordered to be paid.

On motion of Dr. Jewett, the Treasurer was ordered to pay the expenses of such members of the Committee on the revision of the Constitution and By-Laws as attended to the duties assigned them by the Convention.

Voted, That a tax of one dollar and fifty cents be laid upon each member of the Society, payable on and after the 1st of June next.

On motion of Dr. Jewett, the following resolution was adopted,

viz: That a Committee of one from a county be appointed to take into consideration the changes, if any be deemed necessary, in the Constitution and By-laws of this Society; said Committee to confer with the different counties on the subject, and report to the next Convention.

The following gentlemen were appointed said committee, *viz:* New Haven County, Jonathan Knight; Hartford County, Archibald Welch; New London County, Dyer T. Brainard; Windham County, William Winer; Middlesex County, Richard Warner; Fairfield County, Elijah Middlebrook; Litchfield County, J. G. Beckwith; Tolland County, Timothy Dimock.

Resolved, That the Secretary furnish said Committee with all the papers on this subject now before the Convention.

There being no further business before the Convention, it adjourned *sine die*.

Attest, JOSIAH G. BECKWITH, *Secretary.*

MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

*FELIX PASCALE,	New York.
JAMES JACKSON,	Dorset, Mass.
JOHN C. WARREN,	" "
*SAMUEL L. MITCHELL,	New York.
*DAVID BOWDITCH,	" "
*WRIGHT POST,	" "
BENJAMIN ELIAHMAN,	New Haven.
*GEORGE MCLELLAN,	Philadelphia, Pa.
*JOHN MACKE,	Providence, R. I.
*CHARLES ELDERIDGE,	East Greenwich, E. I.
THEODORE HOMERUS BECK,	Albany, N. Y.
*JAMES THATCHER,	Plymouth, Mass.
EDWARD DELAFIELD,	New York.
JOHN DELAMATER,	Cincinnati, Ohio.
*WILLIAM F. DEWEES,	Philadelphia, Pa.
*JOSEPH WHITE,	Cherry Valley, N. Y.
JACOB BUELOW,	Dorset, Mass.
WALTER CHANNING,	" "
*PHILIP SYNG PHYSICK,	Philadelphia, Pa.
*LEWIS HEDDMANN,	U. S. Navy.
DANIEL SHAK,	Uranian, Ohio.
*HENRY MITCHELL,	Schenectady, N. Y.
NATHAN BYNO SMITH,	Baltimore, Md.
VALENTINE MUTT,	New York.
*SAMUEL WHITE,	Hudson, N. Y.
REUFEN D. MURSEY,	Cincinnati, Ohio.
WILLIAM TULLY,	New Haven.
RICHMOND BROWNELL,	Providence, R. I.
WILLIAM BEAUMONT,	St. Louis, Mo.
SAMUEL HENRY DICKSON,	Charleston, S. C.
*SAMUEL E. WOODWARD,	Northampton, Mass.
*JOHN STEARNS,	New York.
STEPHEN W. WILLIAMS,	Dorfield, Mass.
*HENRY GREEN,	Albany, N. Y.
*GEORGE FRANK,	Springfield, Mass.
WILLARD PARKER,	New York.
DONALD TACKER,	U. S. Navy.
ALVIN MAUGH,	Albany, N. Y.
AMOS TWITCHELL,	Reno, N. H.
CHARLES A. LEE,	New York.
DAVID S. C. B. SMITH,	Providence, R. I.
JAMES M. SMITH,	Springfield, Mass.

ORDINARY MEMBERS.

The names of those Members who are exempt from taxation by age, are in italics: the names of those who have been Presidents of the Society, are in capitals.

HARTFORD COUNTY.

GURDON W. BUNELL, M. D., Chairman.

A. W. BARDOW, M. D., Clerk.

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|---|--|
| <p>HARTFORD, GEORGE SUMNER;
Henry Holmes, Samuel B. Brewster,
George B. Hawley, Gideon W. Sam-
uel, David Coney, E. W. Ellsworth;
BENJAMIN ROGERS, E. K. Hunt, John
S. Foster, H. A. Grant, Samuel K.
Johnson, J. C. Jackson, A. W. Bar-
dow, Thomas Miley, M. W. Wilson;
ARCHIBALD WELCH,
<i>West Hartford, Edmund Chase.</i>
ARON, Alfred Kellogg.
BANTA, Elwood Geddes, E. Brewster,
Jr.
BEEBEE, Samuel West, Louise
Woodruff, L. D. Babcock, P. G.
Barnard.
BLOOMFIELD, John F. Wells.
BARTON, Joseph W. Clegg.
BOSTONIAN, William Elton, M.D.
CARTER, Benjamin Kerner, Thomas G.
Baker.
COLUMBIA, Edward H. Telford, O. B.
Fennell.
EAST HARTFORD, Eli Mott, Seth L.
Clark.
EAST WINDSOR, Byron Watson.
Broad Acre, Stephen L. Fisk.
HARTFORD PRIST, Joseph Clarendon.
EUREKA, J. F. Converse, A. L. Sprad-
ling.
THOMPSONVILLE, Stephen G. Riley.</p> | <p>FAIRVIEW, Asahel Thompson, M.
W. Livingston, Channing Brown.
FARMVILLE, G. A. Moody.
FARMVILLE, Wm. H. Sage.
HARTFORDVILLE, Ralph Carter, William
Baker.
KATH GLENDALE, Russell Hawley,
Lillian J. Andrus, Henry Lehart.
KATHLEEN, Baker, George.
KATHLEEN, James Case, Asa F. Jewett.
North Glaston, E. F. Krone.
East Glaston, Chester Hamilton.
West Glaston, James D. Wilson.
MAVERICK, William C. Williams,
William Scott.
MOUNT HILL, Sylvester Bulley.
MOUNTAIN, Richard A. White.
PACIFIC, Geo. W. Shullard, Charles
W. Briggs.
SOUTHINGTON, Julius S. Barnes, —
Bryant.
SOUTH WINDSOR, Hanson C. Gilester,
Solney Rockwell, William Wood.
SOUTHVILLE, Joseph L. Ewell, Samuel E.
Lowe, Arthur Boring.
WATERBURY, E. P. Cooke, A. S.
Wagner.
WINDSOR, William S. Patten, Thom-
as H. Giddings, Lee.
WINDSOR LOCKS, Samuel W. Clarendon.
WINDSOR, Oliver B. Gregg.</p> |
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NEW HAVEN COUNTY.

ISAAC GOODSELL, M. D., Chairman.

David A. Tolan, M. D., Clerk.

- NEW HAVEN.** Eli Fox, T. F. Berry, Jonathan Knight, Samuel Ponderson, V. M. Love, A. S. Mason, Charles Hooker, H. R. Porter, Nathan B. Fox, E. B. Bishop, E. D. North, J. A. Thayer, A. C. Bakewell, L. A. Thomas, Levi Fox, Perry A. Jewett, J. T. Holbrook, D. L. Daggett, George O. Sumner, D. A. Tyler, Henry Sumner, E. A. Peck, N. W. Taylor, Jr., H. A. Carrington, A. Moody, W. J. Whiting, S. G. Hubbard, H. W. E. Matthews.
- WYDELL.** Samuel Lloyd.
- FAIR HAVEN.** C. B. Thompson, J. H. Beecher, W. M. White, Lyman Parker.
- BERRY.** Amos C. Woodward.
- BLANFORD.** Wiloughby L. Lay.
- CANTON.** A. J. Briggs, Nicholas Barker.
- DENY.** S. H. Coffin.
- JEANES.** Samuel P. Church.
- Kewingham.** Andrew Bardsley, T. Denon.
- Middletown.** Abram Stafford, Sheldon C. Johnson, Joshua Kendrick, Thomas Stafford.
- EAST HAVEN.** Ben Persham.
- GROTON.** Joel Chadfield, Eliza Hutchinson, Alfred Talbot.
- MANSION.** Raymond Webb.
- MERRIDEN.** Gustavus Haller.
- West Haven.** B. H. Carter, Edward W. Hunt.
- TOWNVILLE.** C. B. McCarty.
- MIDDLETOWN.**
- MANSION.** Andrew French, Hal Allen, L. M. Bardsley.
- NORWICH.** J. B. Mead, Timothy Langdon.
- NORTH BLANFORD.** Sheldon Bardsley.
- SOUTH HAVEN.** C. B. Fox.
- GROTON.** Nathaniel, John Lonsbury.
- WATERBURY.** A. R. Ferris.
- SOUTH BRITAIN.** S. C. Bakewell.
- WALLINGFORD.** B. H. Harrison, S. W. Clark.
- WATERBURY.** Joseph Foster, David Foster, Jr., M. C. Ledyard, G. L. Pratt, W. W. Rodman, John Denison, George E. Perkins, H. H. Perrin.
- WINDHAM.** Isaac Goodell, Andrew Coffin.
- WINDSOR.** Henry Brynston.

NEW LONDON COUNTY.

NATHANIEL S. PERKINS, M. D., Chairman.

Seth Sayre, M. D., Clerk.

- NEW LONDON.** Archibald Meyer, Dan T. Maynard, Nathaniel S. Perkins, James Morgan, Isaac G. Foster, Wm. W. Miner, James Rogers, Seth Smith, C. T. Crane, D. P. Francis, Archibald T. Douglass, Albert Wilbur, Albert Holton.
- SOMERSON.** Richard P. Toney, Wrentham Hooker, Clement Burgess, Eliza Dyer, Jr., Eliza Finney, Benjamin T. Smith, Jonathan W. Brooks, E. P. Barker, Abiel B. Hall, John D. Ford, Robert A. Huntington, Jeremiah King, Edwin Beeley, Benjamin S. Dean.
- BARKEN.** Samuel Johnson.
- CHATHAM.** Elsie W. Parsons, Frederick Morgan.
- EAST LON.** John L. Smith, Austin F. Perkins.
- FRANKLIN.** Abiel Woodward.
- GREENGLASS.**
- Jesset City.** Almon Fuller.
- GROTON.** Joseph Butler.
- Porterville.** John G. Miner, Elias P. Coats.
- Luxton.** Joseph Coatsack, Emma Ogden, Richard P. Green.
- Luxton.**
- Gale's Ferry.** Rufus W. Mathewson.
- Luxton.** Van Smith.
- Luxton.** Richard Noyes, John Noyes.
- North Loxton.** Wm. W. J. Warren.
- Merriville.** Ephraim Fildes, Samuel E. Maynard, Eliza Brown.
- Greenville.** Jeremiah H. Gay, John C. Talbot.
- North Merriville.** Thomas P. Warren, Alonzo Gay.
- Porter.** Jerry Talbot, Eliza B. Downing.
- Portsmouth.** H. W. Coats.
- Salix.** John F. Fuller.
- Somerset.** Wm. Hyde, George E. Palmer, Wm. Hyde, Jr.
- Mytic.** Mervin Manning.
- Barnburg.** Wm. A. Babcock.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY.

E. MIDDLEBROOK, M. D., Chairman.

SAMUEL BLAIR, M. D., Clerk.

FAIRFIELD, JEREMIAH T. DENISON, S. P.	NEWPORT, CYRILUS M. BOOTH, E.
Y. R. TAYLOR, BUCK.	IRVING, GEORGE JUDSON.
GREENFIELD, ELMER BAKERMAN.	NEWMAN, JOHN A. McLENNAN, JR. GRIGG.
SAUTPORT, JAMES THORNTON.	REEDING, CHARLES JACKSON.
FAIRBANKS, SAMUEL BUCK, D. H.	HAMMILL, NICHOLAS PERRY.
NASH, WILLIAM F. WATSON, FREDERICK	SEABURY, OLIVER W. NORTON.
J. JONES, L. W. JONES, Wm. Nash.	NEWMAN, CHAMBERLAIN AGONY, S. D.
ROXBOROUGH, NASH A. LARRY, A. I.	HUGHES.
WILLIAMS.	SOLATON, WILLIAM T. SUTTON, JOHN
DANFORTH, R. B. BATHFORD, E. P. DENNETT.	GOSLING.
ALFORD, H. N. DENNETT, J. A. ANDERSON.	TEPPER, ELIJAH MIDDLE-
HENRY, WARREN PERCIVAL.	BROOK, GEORGE DYER.
ELSTON, LLOYD SUTLEY, JAMES BAKERMAN.	WATSON, GEORGE BLACKMAN, J.
HENNINGTON, JAMES H. SUTTON.	JANNEY.
MARION, GEORGE HOLLEY, NATHAN H.	WATSON, SYLVANUS MEND.
HALL.	
NEW CANAAN, ARTHUR S. NORTON, LOUIS	
EDWARDS.	

WINDHAM COUNTY.

LORENZO MASON, M. D., Chairman.

JAMES H. WATSON, M. D., Clerk.

BROOKLYN, JAMES B. WATSON, DAN-	PLAINFIELD, CHARLES P. O. MARY BURGESS,
IEL M. HALL, WILLIAM WOODBRIDGE.	ED. BATHFORD, JR., HOMER BURGESS.
ANDERSON, JOHN H. BURGESS.	PURPORT, OLIVER HALL, LOUIS WIL-
CANTONMENT, ALONZO BATHFORD, JOSEPH	SONS.
DANIEL.	FRANKLIN, NATHAN S. PIER.
CHARTER, CYRIL WATSON.	THORNTON, NICHOLAS BOWEN.
ELSTON, DAVE HUGHES.	VERMONT, HARVEY CAMPBELL.
KILLBURY, JAMES HANCOCK.	WATSON, CHAS. MEND. JR. WIL C.
NORTH KILLBURY, FREDERICK H. DENNETT.	LESTER.
SOUTH KILLBURY, DANIEL A. HENRY.	WILMINGTON, WILLIAM WATSON, JOHN
WEST KILLBURY, DANIEL E. HALL, NATHAN	HILL.
HALLMAN, STEPHEN C. GRIGG.	SCOTT, OLIVER E. DENNETT.
WILMINGTON, HENRY W. HUGHES,	WATSON, NATHAN, AND WATSON.
THOMAS W. PIER.	NATHAN WOODBRIDGE, JAMES HENRY.
DANFORTH, CHARLES H. FADDER.	Wm. WOODBRIDGE, NATHAN BATHFORD,
PLAINFIELD, WILLIAM H. GRIGG.	CHARLES E. DENNETT.
	ELSTON, HENRY GRIGG.

LITCHFIELD COUNTY.

B. B. NORTH, M. D., Chairman.

HUGHES DENNETT, M. D., Clerk.

LITCHFIELD, WILLIAM M. BUCK,	SHUTAN, G. G. BUCK.
ARTHUR WATSON, J. G. DENNETT, GEORGE	BATHFORD, HENRY JUDSON.
SYMPSON, D. E. BATHFORD, CHAS. VAIL.	CANAN, A. A. WRIGHT, GEORGE ADAM,
SOUTH FARM, GARRY H. MEND.	THOMAS H. SUTLEY.
BATHFORD, F. B. GRIGG.	SOUTH CANAN, JOHN A. GILBERT.

Cornwall, Eustis B. South.
 East Cornwall, Samuel W. Cobb, J.
 E. Smith.
 North Cornwall,
 Cochrane,
 Goshute's Bridge, Gamaliel H. &
 John.
 Goutry, A. M. Hestley.
 Harwood,
 Kays, Wells Beechley, Johnson C.
 Hatch, Elsie Ostrom.
 New Harwood, Carter.
 New Milwau, John Williams, Wm.
 B. Lory.
 Norwalk, William W. Welch.
 Palmyra, Samuel T. Salisbury.
 Plymouth Mallon, William Woodruff.

Racine, Myron Downs.
 Salsbery, G. Flood, Wm. Warden.
 Lebovitz, Benjamin Welch, Jr.
 Salsbery, Ralph Deering, Chas. J.
 Reed.
 Palmerville, Eustis Besserk.
 Warren, Norman Lyons.
 Waukegan, Maudy Peters.
 Waukegan, S. M. Fowler.
 New Preston, Sidney H. Lyman, Ed-
 ward P. Lyman.
 Waverly, James Welch, H. G.
 Wentzler, John L. Wakefield.
 Woodstock, Russell Abernathy, Chas.
 H. Wells.
 Tyroneville.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY.

EUFUS TURNER, M. D., Chairman.

G. C. H. GUARD, M. D., Clerk.

Middlesex, Richard Wainor, Joseph
 Eustis, Charles Woodward, William
 R. Casey, Dan & Harrison, Hamilton
 Peters, Franklin Woodward.
 Chatham, Francis G. Edgerton.
 Middle Haddam, Albert B. Westbury.
 Chatham, S. W. Turtel.
 Clinton, Deane H. Hubbard.
 Durham, Benjamin M. Fowler.
 East Haddam, J. M. Holt, Doris
 Williams, Elsie H. Nye.

Haddam, Jos. Bachmann.
 Higganum, William B. Tomlinson.
 Killameworth, Edna Taylor.
 Portland, George G. Jarvis, Stephen
 A. Taylor, G. C. H. Gilbert.
 Seabrook, Am. H. King.
 West, Alexander H. Hough, Frederick
 W. Shepard.
 Long River, Rufus Dakin.
 Weymouth, Elmore Root, — Way.

TOLLAND COUNTY.

OLSON WOOD, M. D., Chairman.

OLSON H. PARRIS, M. D., Clerk.

Tolland, Alvin Ladd, Oliver E.
 Johnson, Gilbert H. Brown.
 Ansonia, Abigail White.
 Easton, Olin Hart, Charles F. Sum-
 ner.
 Chatham, Harrison Hilditch.
 Coopers, North, Elmer Hart.
 South Coopers, Timothy Hanson, H.
 M. Smith.
 Ellington, Alva Hyde, J. H. Man-
 ning.
 Haven, JOHN S. PETERS, Olin
 C. Wagon, Elijah A. Woodward.

Middlesex, North, Norman Hughes.
 Wm. H. Richardson, Albert Mer-
 rison.
 South Mansfield, Earl Swift.
 Norton, Olin Wood, Emerson E.
 Hinchon.
 Salisbury, East, William N. Clark,
 Elmer S. Robin.
 Stafford, Wm. J. Josiah C. Hodges.
 Union, E. Lindsay, S. F. Lindsay.
 Vernon, Alden Skinner, C. B. Ham-
 mond.
 Rockville, Benjamin H. Conings.
 Weymouth, Francis L. Dickinson.

SUMMARY OF COUNCILARY MEMBERS FOR 1848-50, WITH THE DEATHS FOR 1848.

COUNTY.	Taxable.		Not Taxable.		Total.		Deaths.
	1847	1850	1847	1850	1847	1850	
Hartford County,	78	69	4	2	78	79	0
New Haven County,	89	71	6	7	73	78	1
New London County,	69	68	8	13	57	61	0
Fairfield County,	15	37	1	4	25	41	1
Litchfield County,	35	38	10	6	49	44	2
Windham County,	19	32	9	0	74	32	2
Middlesex County,	24	20	0	1	94	27	0
Tolland County,	24	24	0	0	39	39	1
Total,	345	347	48	43	298	242	4

SUMMARY OF MEMBERS IN PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEARS.	Taxable.	Not Taxable.	Total.
1823	—	—	719
1830	—	—	303
1840	345	31	376
1850	347	40	387

NOTE. Titular Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society, are permanent members of the Annual Conventions, having the privilege of attending all meetings, and procuring all the books, of attending members except that of making their votes. And all members of the Society are entitled by the by-laws, to be present at all meetings of the Convention, and persons of this class in the first day of the session.

DEATHS OF MEMBERS DURING THE YEAR ENDING APRIL 1, 1850, WITH THE AGE AND DISEASE WHEN ASCERTAINED.

Hartford County, no deaths.
 New Haven County, Daniel H. Moser, Chronic Typhoid, Age 41.
 New London County, no deaths.
 Fairfield County, Henry Howell, Dysentery, Age 63.
 Windham County, Dr. Garrison, no particular information; Wm. H. Camp, 16th Typhoid Fever, Age 33.
 Litchfield County, Benjamin Welch, Age 52; Roden E. Wetherell, Jaundice, Age 24; Thomas M. Woodruff, Chronic Rheumatism and Brucella, Age 35; Peter Koushew, Typhoid Fever, Age 24.
 Middlesex County, no deaths.
 Tolland County, Nathaniel Hinkley, Age then 77.

DUTIES OF CLERKS.

To write County Meetings.

To record the proceedings of the County Meetings.

To collect the taxes, and pay the same to the Treasurer.

To transmit to the Secretary a list of the elected Fellows, and the person recommended as a candidate for a gratuitous course of lectures, immediately after the County Meetings, for publication.

To make certificates of Fellowship, to be transmitted to the Secretary, on or before the first day of the Convention.

To transmit duplicate lists of the Members of the Society, to the Secretary and Treasurer, on or before the first day of the Convention, on the penalty of five dollars for each neglect.

To return to the Treasurer the names of delinquent Members of the Society.

To report to the Secretary of the State Convention, on the first day of its session, the names, ages, and dwellings of the Members of this Society, who may have died during the year preceding the 1st of April in each year, in their several County Societies.

RULES OF ORDER.

1. Organization.
2. Certificate of Membership, presented and read by Secretary.
3. Committee on the election of Fellows.
4. Address of President.
5. Election of Officers for ensuing year.
6. Unfinished business of previous year disposed of.
7. Reception and reference, without debate, of Communications, Resolves, &c., from the several counties, and members of the Convention.
8. Reading Treasurer's Report.
9. Committee to audit the same.
10. Committee on Debentures.
11. Standing Committee appointed.
12. Committee to nominate Delegates to National Convention.
13. Committee on Candidates for gratuitous course of Lectures.
14. Committee on Boundary Degrees and Honorary Memberships.
15. Committee to consider Disputes.
16. Dispositions.
17. Reports of Committees appointed on County Communications, Resolves, &c.
18. Reports of Standing Committees.
19. Reports of Committees in the order in which business was brought forward in Convention.
20. Miscellaneous business.

DISSERTATIONS READ IN CONVENTIONS.

1794. Dr. S. H. P. Lee, on Autumnal Bilious Fever.
 " Dr. Gideon Shepherd, on the Properties of Opium.
1795. Dr. F. P. Oviere, on the Preparations of Antimony.
 " Dr. Thaddeus Betts, on the different species of Colic.
1796. Dr. F. P. Oviere, on the Corruption of Yellow Fever.
 " Dr. S. H. P. Lee, on Cynanche Tonsillaris.
 " Dr. Lewis Collins, on the most eligible mode of increasing Medical Knowledge in this State.
 " Dr. Gideon Shepherd, on the same subject.
1798. Dr. Samuel Hopkins, case of Bilious Concretion.
 " Dr. Jared Potter, " An Essay."
1799. Dr. Thaddeus Clark, a Dissertation.
1800. Dr. Nathaniel Dwight, on Luesy.
1804. Dr. Samuel Willard, on the Stafford Mineral Waters.
1817. Dr. W. R. Fowler, on the deleterious effects of Ardent Spirits.
1818. Dr. William Buel, on Erysip.
1826. Dr. Thomas Miner, on Typhus Fever.
1821. Dr. Samuel Backwell, on Uterine Hemorrhage.
1822. Dr. William Tully, on the Yellow Fever at Middle town.
1823. Dr. Dyer T. Brainard.
1827. Dr. Samuel B. Woodward, on the Biography of the Physicians of the State.
1829. Dr. George Sumner, on Extra-uterine Conception.
1830. Dr. Charles Hocker, on Diseases of the Ear.
1835. Dr. Benjamin Welch, Jr., on the Vitality of the Blood.
1836. Dr. E. H. Bishop, " Influence of Moral Emotions on Disease."
1837. Dr. Archibald Welch, on Scarlet Fever.
1838. Dr. Isaac G. Porter, on the disease commonly denominated Spinal Irritation.
1839. Dr. Henry Brown, on the Mental qualifications necessary to a Physician.
1840. Dr. Richard Warner, on the advantages of prompt and efficient practice in Acute Diseases.
1841. Dr. Amariah Brigham, on Insanity as a subject of Medical Jurisprudence.
1842. Dr. Charles Woodward, on Divertic Irritation.
1843. Dr. Fiske W. Ellsworth, on Phlebitis.
1844. Dr. Worthington Hooker, on the respect due to the Medical Profession, and the reasons that it is not awarded by the community.
1845. Dr. Nathan B. Ives, on Laryngismus Stridulus.
1846. Dr. Theodore Sill, Observations on Typhus Fever.
1847. Dr. E. K. Hunt, on the Importance of a Medical Organization, and the advantages resulting from it.
1848. Dr. R. F. Barker, Remarks on some forms of disease of the Cervix Uteri.
1849. Dr. Alvan Talcott, on Hygiene.
1850. Dr. Johnson C. Hatch, on Medical Jurisprudence.

A D D R E S S .

MR. PRESIDENT :

The medical profession of our country, with very general consent, has lately evinced unwearied interest on the subject of endeavoring to advance the standard of education both for those preparing to enter upon the study, and for such also as offer themselves for admission to the ranks of our profession.

The American Medical Association has made it a prominent feature in its scheme of improvement, by earnestly recommending all teachers to insist that those who present themselves for the study of medicine and surgery, higher qualifications than have hitherto been deemed indispensable by those who take upon themselves the office of instructors. This body has attempted further to benefit the world, and to elevate the character of the profession by its recommendation of uniformity in the system of medical and surgical instruction in the various public schools of our country.

The outlines drawn by the wisdom of the Association, and communicated to the professional public, have been, I believe, very generally considered as eminently entitled to regard by all who entertain a desire for the public good, or have in view the honor of the profession. It is indeed a grateful duty to admit that, though defects and short comings yet exist in our system of instruction, the last half century has witnessed very many splendid achievements on the field of medical science, beyond the boundaries defined by previous research.

It is with pleasure too, and pride, that we may dwell upon the comparative merits of our own cherished institutions, whither those who are to succeed us in the responsible duties, now

incumbent on ourselves, can repair to complete their qualifications for the task they are to assume.

But, Mr. President and gentlemen, I come in fulfillment of the task assigned me, to speak of a defect that obtains to some extent, as I conceive, in our own as well as in most other schools where medical science is pursued.

I allude to that important branch, denominated *Medical Jurisprudence*.

Perhaps there is no better criterion with the public, to judge of the attainments of a physician, than by his knowledge of this branch of our profession.

Is he ignorant of its principles, or unable to convey in a clear and intelligible manner, his knowledge of the various questions which may be propounded to him, to establish an uninstructed jury in an opinion that may involve interests of immeasurable magnitude, he is sure to suffer from the galling batteries which some, in the legal profession, at every bar in the state, are qualified to bring to bear upon him. His own, and to some extent the disgrace of the profession to which he belongs, must follow; and how unenviable must be his position as a witness, who has no other shield for his protection, than that simply which a diploma can confer.

It seems incumbent then upon the profession, to exert a controlling influence over the education of such as seek its membership.

This most clearly was the view taken by the able and learned committee constituted at the United States Medical Convention in 1846, who had in charge the whole subject of medical education, and whose report, defining what it ought to be, met with universal approbation at the convention of the American Medical Association in 1847.

The subject of which I speak was then and there emphatically urged, and distinctly embraced in the enumerated catalogue of the studies appropriate for the adoption of the public schools.

The liability to which every young member of the profession is exposed to become involved, and under circumstances so fraught with danger to his own reputation, the reputation of the profession, as also to the rights of others if unprepared to wield the potent powers with which by custom he is supposed

to be invested, seems to call for adequate appropriations for his outfit in the start of his untrod course; for slow indeed to the majority of minds comes the necessary discipline when left to glean alone the field of science.

Civilians have well discerned their duty and performed it. It is ours to apply such regimen as the constituted body politic requires, as well as to put forth our powers to restore to health the subjects of disease.

In the early days of our medical history, many instances are upon record of the infliction of capital punishment upon subjects whose condition of mind ought to have forbidden the application of the penalty of law.

An execution took place many years ago in Litchfield county, of a maniac, who fancied himself the Supreme Being. His whole demeanor, it is understood, was consistent with this one insane idea; yet the hallucination was construed to entitle him the more richly for his irreverence, to an ignominious death; and years rolled away before a suspicion was raised as to the healthy state of mind of the sufferer, and the consequent justice of the act.

Later, only a few years since, a trial was had in the same county, upon a foreigner, for the crime of murder, in which there was a clear triumph of medical science over the strongest demonstrations of popular feeling in favor of the most rigorous and summary application of punishment due to such a crime, and against the testimony borne by physicians to the unsound condition of the prisoner's mind. An enlightened court, and a jury who had the good sense to lay their minds open to receive instruction on the subject from men who had made themselves more acquainted with the mind diseased. Even in this case a titled authority was placed upon the stand to witness before the court that there was no defect in the poor prisoner's mind; and no such form of insanity as monomania. When retiring from the stand he was addressed by one who had listened to the whole proceedings, in substance as follows. "Sir, when I came here I entertained very much the same opinions you have expressed, and I believe I did so in common with a large majority of our neighborhood; but by the light shed around us on this trial, I must be allowed to pronounce you out of place while you oc-

cure a standing among doctors." He was granted nothing in consideration of his youth. I would yield him that apology. The subsequent history of this case has abundantly justified the righteousness of the conclusion to which the jury came in their verdict of acquittal.

There have been numerous instances in which insanity has been set up as a defence of the violations of the law, where the accused was laboring under no other than a moral infirmity of mind, temporarily obscured by means through which his obliquity could find no justification: but where a nice discrimination is demanded lest a medical witness shall be found to lend his voice and influence in violation of his high and solemn obligations to sustain the majesty of wholesome law, and not to screen the guilty or to varnish crime.

We might speak of the numerous items to be taken into account by the mind employed in prosecuting its enquiries into subjects pertaining to the department of medicine we are considering. I might speak more particularly of the necessity of a thorough understanding of the effects of those agents sometimes employed to accomplish the destruction of human life—of the tests whereby to detect their existence, in order that a just distinction may be made between the operations of these, and the ravages of ordinary disease—of the results from violence inflicted upon parts essential to life. Of all these and their kindred topics, you are fully aware.

Nor is it necessary to advocate here what all will acknowledge, the usefulness and dignity of this branch of a medical education. And I forbear the detail which these thoughts suggest.

I am admonished by the character of the audience I address, that I can inculcate no new truth, nor indicate a path of duty to fields not already explored by all who hear me. I submit however, that if a defect exists of the kind to which I have alluded, does it not devolve on one and all, to aid in providing that the student of this school, as he goes forth under the authority of Connecticut, to take upon him the high duties he is to meet, may enjoy the advantage of direct instruction in this interesting department of our profession.

APPENDIX. A.

THE COMMITTEE OF EXAMINATION have attended to the duties assigned them, and respectfully submit the following report:

The Board convened Wednesday, Jan. 16, and continued in session two days: present the full Board.

Sixteen Candidates, after a thorough examination, were recommended for the degree of Doctor of Medicine, which was conferred by President Woolsey, of Yale College.

1. Anna Cranner Elkesley, Waterbury, subject, Purpura Hemorrhagica.
2. Henry Clinton Bruce, Manchester, subject, Asthma.
3. Alphaeus Bryant Clark, New Haven, subject, Sarcocology.
4. Henry Augustus Collins, New Haven, subject, Placenta Previa.
5. Richard Pierce Evans, Franklin, Ohio, subject, Acute Cholera.
6. Henry Hawley Foster, Roxbury, subject, Varicella.
7. Horatio Wells Gridley, A. B., Berlin, subject, Morbida Brightii.
8. Dixon Scipio Hall, Montville, subject, Erysipelas.
9. Charles Clifford Holcomb, W. Groverville, Mass., subject, Pneumonia.
10. Lewis Raymond Harbott, M. A., New Haven, subject, Pott's Disease.
11. Henry Lohdell, B. A., Brookfield, subject, Relations of Psychology to Medicine.
12. Henry Willis Edward Matthews, B. A., New Haven, subject, Diet.
13. George Hummel Rogers, Colchester, subject, Phthisis.
14. Henry Smith East Hadham, subject, The Liver.
15. Joel Washington Smith, Hallowell, subject, Typhus.
16. William Cook Williams, Manchester, subject, Typhus.

A very interesting and appropriate address was delivered by H. A. Grant, M. D., of Hartford, which was listened to, not only by the graduates, but by a very respectable number of citizens, with much apparent interest and attention.

Richard Wether, M. D., of Middletown and Alvan Talcott, M. D., of Groton, were appointed to give the addresses to the graduates in 1851 and 1852.

Your Committee are prepared to express a decided opinion, that the graduates, with a few exceptions, exhibited a thorough knowledge of the general principles of the different departments of science taught in the lecture room; doing good credit to themselves as students, and honor to our professors; many of whom have labored and sustained for a great number of years the different branches of medical science to which they have been more particularly devoted, with that interest, energy and success which deserves our warmest thanks and honest praise.

WILLIAM WITTER.

B.

The Committee to whom was referred the revision of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Connecticut Medical Society, respectfully beg leave to report the following propositions to the several county meetings for their approval or disapproval, viz:

1st. We recommend that the 2d section of the act of Incorporation or Constitution, be amended so that each county may elect 10 instead of 5 Fellows, except Middlesex and Tolland, and that each of them may elect 6 instead of 3, as at present; who shall hold their offices for two years, except the first year, when the term of one-half the number shall expire, and an equal number be chosen to supply the vacancy. It is not intended to recommend that the retiring Fellows shall be ineligible.

2d. We propose to amend sec. 7 of the same act, by the repeal of all that part of it which relates to the collecting of the taxes of members by legal process, and substitute therefor the following. That the name of every member of this society who shall, after the passage of this amendment, decline or neglect, without good and sufficient cause, to be decided on application of the delinquent by the Convention, to pay the taxes due from him to this society, for three years successively, dating from the period of his last payment, shall be stricken from its rolls, and he be no longer considered a member thereof.

3d. We recommend the repeal of so much of sec. 5 of the Act in relation to the Medical Institution of Yale College as relates to the granting of Licenses.

The Committee recommend the following By-Laws and Amendments to the same.

1st. To succeed sec. 1, the following: Every member of this society shall annually contribute to its funds the sum assessed in Convention, and pay the same to the clerk of the county in which he resides, on or before the succeeding annual meeting of said county, and no tax paying member shall be eligible to any office, nor permitted to vote until he shall have made such payment.

2d. To succeed that just passed we offer the following. This society adopts as a part of its regulations, the Code of Ethics of the American Medical Association, substituting it for the existing system of Medical Ethics which is hereby repealed.

To succeed sec. 7, we propose 3d. It shall be the duty of clerks to forward annually to the State Medical Convention by one of its Fellows, a copy each of such dissertations or communications, read in county meetings of the several counties, as shall by a vote of said meetings be regarded of sufficient value; all of which shall be submitted to a committee appointed by the Convention, and may be read or printed with their proceedings, or both at the discretion of the Convention.

4th. Sec. 14 we propose to amend so that the President and Fellows shall each receive one dollar for attendance, instead of two dollars, and six cents instead of twelve and a half cents for travel as at present.

5th. To succeed sec. 4, we propose the following. The offices of President and Vice President shall be limited to one year each, and each county

in turn shall furnish testimonials for these officers respectively, provided that in no case shall both be filled by residents of the same county.

6th. We propose that the rules of order in Convention shall be published annually, with its proceedings in connection with the duties of clerk.

7th. We propose that no article of the by-laws as now adopted, shall be altered or amended, without the consent of two-thirds of the members present at an annual Convention.

E. K. HUNT, Chairman.

C.

The Committee appointed to audit the Treasurer's account respectfully report:

That they have examined the same and find it correct. In examining the other matters referred to, your Committee find the number of tax paying members as published in the proceedings of 1849, to be 355, distributed in the several counties, as follows:

Hartford County,	71	taxes charged	665	arrears	\$232.00.
New Haven County,	68	"	405	"	288
New London County,	49	"	480	"	136
Fairfield County,	38	"	373	"	242
Litchfield County,	45	"	617	"	225
Windham County,	32	"	303	"	12
Middlesex County,	50	"	223	"	93
Tolland County,	25	"	208	"	71
			\$3201		\$1289.96

The amount of taxes charged in 7 years preceding 1849 as above, and a deficiency of \$1229, distributed in the several counties as follows (see table.) From the estimates, which we have taken from tables carefully prepared by the Treasurer, it appears that the pecuniary burden of sustaining this Society falls very unequally upon the members of the several counties, as will be shown more clearly by the exhibition of the per centage of arrearages.

Windham County,	4 per cent. of all taxes charged in 7 years.
Middlesex	" 49 "
N. London	" 28 "
Tolland	" 34.5 "
Hartford	" 34.9 "
N. Haven	" 47 "
Litchfield	" 55 "
Fairfield	" 67 "

What proportion of the amount paid in each county has been cancelled by abatements, your Committee have not had time to ascertain.

Respectfully submitted,

RICHARD WARNER.



SEMICENTENNIAL CATALOGUE,

OF THE OFFICERS AND FELLOWS OF THE

CONNECTICUT MEDICAL SOCIETY.

There are several considerations which have induced us to publish, with the proceedings of the present year, the names of the Officers and Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society, from its organization in 1792 to the present year. It will be recollected that for the first twenty years of the Society's existence there was no publication of its proceedings, and it was at a later period of its existence that the first Catalogue of members was published; there is therefore no related record for this whole period of time.

Again, it is customary with all societies to mark the opening and close of its years, and to erect more lofty monuments when half centuries and centuries have departed. As this is the semi-centennial year of the 19th century, and the fifty-eighth of our organization, we have perceived that it might be acceptable to the present members to have published in an enduring form, for preservation, the names of those distinguished individuals to whose indomitable perseverance and self-sacrificing devotion to their profession, we are principally indebted for our present Medical organization: a structure of such admirable beauty and fair proportions, that it has been a model for other States; and the experience of more than fifty years has found but little to modify or change. While it has, both by the influence of individual members, and by its collective wisdom in Convention, exerted a controlling influence over the State Legislature, with whose cooperation it has erected spacious edifices for the amelioration of human suffering in its protest forms; while in its institutions for giving sanity to the insane, and eyes to the blind, it has dispensed the largest charities with a Godlike hand. This same influence has formed a Medical Institution which justly ranks among the first in our country; whose graduates are found not

only throughout the length and breadth of our, but in foreign lands, successfully engaged in the great cause of suffering humanity, and elevating the moral condition of our race, reflecting honor upon their alma mater, and the Medical Society, the common founder and patron of both. But it is not my object to eulogize, in this place, the memory of those devoted men upon whom half a century has wrought the legitimate work of time on man; nor speak of the achievements of our State Medical Society. We have the promise that some abler hand shall do justice to their distinguished services. Most of the founders of our Society, if not all, have closed their earthly labors; there is with us still a small remnant previous to the year 1810, who have long been noticed on our Catalogues; who have closed their earthly labors and their connection with the busy world, yet linger to join their companions in the land of silence.

There is yet another class, who hold in remembrance these venerable men, and who are now the connecting link between them and the younger members of the Society; who have been connected with them in perfecting and extending the benefits of our organization, to whom the Society owe a large debt of gratitude. Their names will be held in lasting remembrance.

By bringing them together in this Semi-centennial Catalogue, when another half century shall have rolled away, some number, perhaps in the hands of the youngest members of this Society, may be brought up from its long repose, and bring before the members of this Society, in the centennial year of the 2000th century, the illustrious founders of our Medical organization, and their now living coadjutors; resending their names and memories from the oblivious past, and rendering some appropriate tribute to the memory of the fathers of the Medical Profession in this State, and the founders of our Medical Society.

*Officers and Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society from
its organization in 1792 to the present time.*

PRESIDENTS.

1792, *Leicester Hubbard.	1829, John S. Peters.
1794, *Ezra Munson.	1832, William Bush.
1801, *James Potter.	1834, *Thomas Minot.
1803, *Thomas Mosely.	1837, *Silas Fuller.
1804, *Jeremiah West.	1841, Elijah Middlebrook.
1807, *John R. Watrous.	1843, *Luther Ticknor.
1813, *Mason F. Cogswell.	1846, Archibald Welch.
1823, *Thomas Hubbard.	1849, George Sumner.
1827, *Eli Todd.	

VICE PRESIDENTS.

1792, *Ezra Munson.	1824, Eli Ives.
1794, *Elihu Tabor.	1827, John S. Peters.
1798, *James Potter.	1829, William Bush.
1801, *Thomas Mosely.	1832, *Thomas Minot.
1803, *Jeremiah West.	1834, *Silas Fuller.
1804, *Jared Potter.	1837, Elijah Middlebrook.
1806, *John R. Watrous.	1841, *Luther Ticknor.
1807, *Mason F. Cogswell.	1843, Archibald Welch.
1813, *Timothy Hall.	1846, Dyer T. Brainerd.
1814, *Thomas Hubbard.	1847, George Sumner.
1823, *Eli Todd.	1849, Rufus Blakeman.

SECRETARIES.

1792, *Jared Potter.	1810, Jonathan Knight.
1794, *James Clark.	1827, *Samuel B. Woodward.
1796, *Daniel Sheldon.	1830, George Sumner.
1798, *Nathaniel Perry.	1832, Charles Hooker.
1800, *Samuel Woodward.	1835, Archibald Welch.
1801, *William Shotton.	1843, Ralph Farnsworth.
1805, *John Barber.	1844, Worthington Hooker.
1810, Eli Ives.	1846, Gordon W. Russell.
1813, *Joseph Foot.	1848, Josiah G. Beckwith.

TREASURERS.

1792, *John Osborn.	1817, John S. Peters.
1794, *Jezemiah West.	1827, William Buel.
1795, *Mason F. Cogswell.	1828, *Joseph Palmer.
1799, *William B. Hall.	1834, Elijah Middlebrook.
1809, *Timothy Hall.	1837, *Luther Tucker.
1813, *Richard Ely.	1841, Virgil Mars Dow.
1816, *Thomas Miser.	

FELLOWS.

BARTFORD COUNTY.

1792.	1797, '8.	1803.
Eliakim Fish, Lemuel Hopkins, Elihu Tudor, Josiah Hart, Samuel Flagg.	Eliakim Fish, Elihu Tudor, Samuel Flagg, Mason F. Cogswell, Lemuel Hopkins.	Eliakim Fish, John Bester, Timothy Hall, Leonard Bacon, George Griswold.
1794.	1799.	1804.
Eliakim Fish, Samuel Flagg, Josiah Hart, Elihu Tudor, Lemuel Hopkins.	Lemuel Hopkins, Elihu Tudor, Mason F. Cogswell, Nathaniel Dwight, Eli Todd.	Leonard Bacon, John Bester, Timothy Hall, George Griswold, Elijah F. Reed.
1794.	1800.	1805, '6.
Elihu Tudor, Lemuel Hopkins, Charles Mather, Mason F. Cogswell, Asa Hillyer.	Elihu Tudor, Mason F. Cogswell, Solomon Everest, Timothy Hall, John Bester.	Howard Alden, John Bester, Leonard Bacon, Simeon Field, Timothy Hall.
1795.	1801.	1807.
Elihu Tudor, Eliakim Fish, Mason F. Cogswell, Solomon Everest, Josiah Hart.	Elihu Tudor, Solomon Everest, Eli Todd, John Bester, Elijah F. Reed.	Mason F. Cogswell, Timothy Hall, John Bester, Abner Musely, George Griswold.
1796.	1802.	1808.
Eliakim Fish, Lemuel Hopkins, Solomon Everest, Mason F. Cogswell, Samuel Flagg.	John Bester, George Griswold, Timothy Hall, Howard Alden, Samuel Flagg.	Mason F. Cogswell, Timothy Hall, John Bester, Simeon Field, George Griswold.

1809. Mason F. Cogswell, Timothy Hall, John Bester, Simson Field, J. H. Sparhawk.	1817. Solomon Everest, John Bester, Nathan Strong, Sam'l B. Woodward, James E. Hart.	1825. E. Todd, Charles Woodward, Julius S. Barnes, George Sumner, S. B. Woodward.
1810. Mason F. Cogswell, Timothy Hall, Simson Field, Howard Ablen, J. H. Sparhawk.	1818. John Bester, S. B. Woodward, Sylvester Wells, Eli Todd, Solomon Everest.	1820. S. B. Woodward, E. F. Reed, J. O. Pond, C. Woodward, J. L. Cornstock.
1811. Mason F. Cogswell, Timothy Hall, John Bester, J. H. Sparhawk, Simson Field.	1819. Mason F. Cogswell, John A. Hart, John L. Cornstock, Norman Lyman, Dwell Morgan.	1827. E. Todd, S. B. Woodward, George Sumner, W. S. Pierson, Caleb H. Austin.
1812. Mason F. Cogswell, Timothy Hall, John Bester, J. H. Sparhawk, Nathan Strong, Jr.	1820. No record of any meeting.	1828. E. F. Reed, Horatio Gridley, George Sumner, Samuel W. Brown, Edward P. Terry.
1813. Mason F. Cogswell, Timothy Hall, John Bester, Eli Todd, Nathan Strong.	1821. S. Everest, S. B. Woodward, J. Bester, E. Todd, G. Sumner.	1829. George Sumner, C. Woodward, E. F. Reed, H. Gridley, Ralph Carter.
1814. Mason F. Cogswell, Timothy Hall, Solomon Everest, Simson Field, John Bester.	1822. Eli Todd, Elijah F. Reed, S. B. Woodward, George Sumner, Wm. S. Pierson.	1830. Samuel Hart, Wm. James Barry, Parson Brownell, Simson Edge, J. S. Barnes.
1815. Solomon Everest, Simson Field, John Bester, Eli Todd, Sylvester Wells.	1823. M. F. Cogswell, J. Bester, Josiah M. Ward, William Tully, Norman Lyman.	1831. Wm. H. Morgan, Richard Ellis, Jer'k T. Denison, Daniel Fuller, R. Carter.
1816. Solomon Everest, John Bester, Nathan Strong, Jr., Simson Field, Dwell Morgan.	1824. S. B. Woodward, James O. Pond, E. F. Reed, Benj. Ward, Jr.	1832. John J. Abernathy, P. Brownell, E. D. Hulson, Amariah Brigham, E. F. Reed.

1833.
W. S. Pierson,
G. Sumner,
Hiram Wilson,
D. H. Hubbard,
H. Gridley.

1834.
Milo L. North,
J. L. Cusstock,
Asaph L. Binell,
E. P. Terry,
Archibald Welch.

1835.
J. S. Barnes,
George Sumner,
P. Brownell,
Henry Holmes,
Guy R. Phelps.

1836.
D. H. Hubbard,
M. L. North,
W. S. Pierson,
A. Welch,
Daniel Fuller.

1837.
David S. Dodge,
Sumner Ives,
R. Carter,
H. Holmes,
Earl Leomin.

1838.
Daniel Holt,
G. Sumner,
Justin B. Wilcox,
Horace C. Gillett,
Jairus Case.

1839.
H. Gridley,
A. Brigham,
Chauncey Brown,
Augustus R. Case,
P. Brownell.

1840.
George O. Sumner,
D. H. Hubbard,
Theodore Sill,
Edward Rowland,
Sam'l B. Bensonford.

1841.
Eli Hall,
Geo. W. Sanford,
Alfred Kellogg,
Simcon Shurtleff,
Joseph F. Jewett.

1842.
D. S. Dodge,
Wm. C. Williams,
P. W. Ellsworth,
Geo. B. Hawley,
Lucius Woodruff.

1843.
G. W. Russell,
D. Holt,
Silas Fuller,
W. S. Pierson,
P. Brownell.

1844.
T. Sill,
Benjamin Rogers,
J. S. Barnes,
G. Sumner,
R. Carter.

1845.
E. K. Hunt,
John S. Butler,
A. W. Barrows,
Rowell Hawley,
Eli Hall.

1846.
E. W. Carrington,
Chester Hamlin,
G. W. Russell,
Samuel B. Fuller,
D. S. Dodge.

1847.
H. Allen Grant,
William Scott,
Samuel Hart,
S. B. Bensonford,
Sidney Rockwell.

1848.
E. K. Hunt,
David Cary,
Josiah C. Sanning,
H. C. Gillett,
John F. Wells.

1849.
E. K. Hunt,
A. L. Spaulding,
Eli Hall,
Thomas Miner,
Seth L. Child.

1850.
L. Woodruff,
Arcus Rising,
Sakia Stocking,
Myron W. Wilson,
G. B. Hawley.

NEW HAYEN COUNTY.

1792.
Leverett Hubbard,
Eneas Munson,
William Gould,
Jared Potter,
Elnathan Beach.

1793.
Leverett Hubbard,
Eneas Munson,
Jared Potter,
William Gould,
John Spaulding.

1794.
Leverett Hubbard,
Eneas Munson,
Levi Ives,
Ab'm Tomlinson,
Thos R. Pynchon.

1795. Eneas Munson, Jared Potter, Abr'm Tomlinson, Elnathan Beach, Wm. Gould.	1803. Abr'm Tomlinson, Levi Ives, Jonathan Todd, John Barker, Joseph Foot.	1811. Abr'm Tomlinson, John Barker, Joseph Foot, Eli Ives, Obadiah Hotchkiss.
1796. Eneas Munson, Jared Potter, John Spaulding, Obadiah Hotchkiss, Nathaniel Hubbard.	1804. Jared Potter, John Spaulding, Levi Ives, Abr'm Tomlinson, John Barker.	1812. John Barker, Joseph Foot, Eli Ives, Elias Shipman, Jr., Pearl Craft.
1797. Eneas Munson, Jared Potter, Abr'm Tomlinson, Obadiah Hotchkiss, John Spaulding.	1805. Abr'm Tomlinson, Levi Ives, Thomas Goodiel, Joseph Foot, John Barker.	1813. Joseph Foot, Eli Ives, Pearl Craft, Anson Foot, Elias Shipman.
1798. Eneas Munson, Abr'm Tomlinson, Jared Potter, John Spaulding, Lewis Collins.	1806. Abr'm Tomlinson, Joseph Foot, Thomas Goodiel, John Barker, Eli Ives.	1814. Joseph Foot, Eli Ives, Pearl Craft, Anson Foot, Bela Farnham.
1799. Eneas Munson, Jared Potter, John Spaulding, Obadiah Hotchkiss, Lewis Collins.	1807. John Barker, Joseph Foot, Eli Ives, Thomas Goodiel, David Marvin.	1815. Joseph Foot, Pearl Craft, Jonathan Knight, William Tully, Anson Foot.
1800. Eneas Munson, A. Tomlinson, John Spaulding, Jared Potter, Obadiah Hotchkiss.	1808. John Barker, Joseph Foot, Eli Ives, Abr'm Tomlinson, David Marvin.	1816. Joseph Foot, Eli Ives, Jonathan Knight, Pearl Craft, T. P. Beers.
1801. Abr'm Tomlinson, John Spaulding, Obadiah Hotchkiss, John Barker, Jared Potter.	1809. Abr'm Tomlinson, John Barker, Eli Ives, Joseph Foot, Thomas Goodiel.	1817. Joseph Foot, Eli Ives, Jonathan Knight, Bela Farnham, Isaac Goodiel.
1802. Abr'm Tomlinson, Jared Potter, John Spaulding, Levi Ives, John Barker.	1810. Joseph Foot, Eli Ives, Abr'm Tomlinson, Bela Farnham, Thomas Goodiel.	1818. Eli Ives, Joseph Foot, Jonathan Knight, Pearl Craft, Edward Field.

1819. Eli Ives, Jonathan Knight, Isaac Goodsell, Timothy P. Beers, Pearl Craft.	1827. Nathan Smith, Wyllis Woodruff, Isaac Jennings, Timothy P. Beers, Alfred S. Monson.	1835. E. H. Bishop, N. B. Ives, Andrew French, Asa Andrews, Josiah P. Hunt.
1826. The same as in 1819, the Convention be- ing this year an adjourned Conven- tion.	1828. Jonathan Knight, Bela Furman, V. M. Dow, Sam'l Panderson, Joel Canfield.	1836. V. M. Dow, Isaac Goodsell, H. A. Tomlinson, Lyman Parker, Wyllis Woodruff.
1821. Eli Ives, Jonathan Knight, Isaac Goodsell, Edward Field, Timothy P. Beers.	1829. Eli Ives, Isaac Goodsell, Reynold Webb, Charles Hooker, Lyman Parker.	1837. Reynold Webb, Henry Bronson, Josiah M. Colburn, N. B. Ives, John H. Kain.
1822. Eli Ives, Jonathan Knight, Timothy P. Beers, John Thaworth, Virgil M. Dow.	1830. Jonathan Knight, Salmon Stoddard, Isaac Jennings, V. M. Dow, Wyllis Woodruff.	1838. J. P. Hunt, C. S. Thomson, Joel Canfield, Wyllis Woodruff, V. M. Dow.
1823. Eli Ives, Jonathan Knight, Joseph Foot, Timothy P. Beers, Isaac Jennings.	1831. Thomas Hubbard, Joseph Tomlinson, Alfred S. Monson, Joel Canfield, Timothy P. Beers.	1839. N. B. Ives, Lester Keep, Lyman Parker, Sam'l Panderson, Reynold Webb.
1824. Andrew French, Isaac Goodsell, Sam'l Panderson, Joel L. Griffing, Timothy P. Beers.	1832. Jonathan Knight, Isaac Jennings, Reynold Webb, V. M. Dow, Charles Hooker.	1840. Jonathan Knight, Joel Canfield, Anson Moody, E. H. Bishop, Wyllis Woodruff.
1825. Eli Ives, Isaac Jennings, Lyman Parker, John Thaworth, Reynold Webb.	1833. Isaac Goodsell, J. T. Denison, Lyman Parker, N. B. Ives, Wyllis Woodruff.	1841. Isaac Goodsell, N. B. Ives, Charles Hooker, Henry Bronson, Wyllis Woodruff.
1826. Nathan Smith, Isaac Goodsell, Isaac Jennings, Charles Hooker, Jacob Lindsey.	1834. Reynold Webb, A. S. Monson, Abiram Stoddard, Joel Canfield, Sheldon Boardley.	1842. T. P. Beers, Lyman Parker, J. A. Tutten, C. S. Thomson, Alvan Talcott.

1843.	1846.	1849.
Nathan B. Ives,	Eli Ives,	Henry Bronson,
Reynold Webb,	W. L. Lay,	G. L. Platt,
M. C. Leavenworth,	Charles Hooker,	Reynold Webb,
Shelton Beardsley,	Anson Moody,	N. B. Ives,
E. H. Bishop.	M. C. Leavenworth.	B. H. Catlin.
1844.	1847.	1850.
Jonathan Knight,	Eli Ives,	Reynold Webb,
Joel Canfield,	G. O. Sumner,	B. H. Catlin,
Levi Ives,	C. S. Thomson,	E. H. Bishop,
P. A. Jewett,	D. A. Tylet,	P. A. Jewett,
Amrose Beardsley.	Alvan Talcott.	Joel Canfield.
1845.	1848.	
Jonathan Knight,	G. O. Sumner,	
Elisha Hutchinson,	Alvan Talcott,	
Charles Hooker,	Henry Bronson,	
L. N. Beardsley,	G. L. Platt,	
D. L. Daggett.	W. J. Whiting.	

NEW LONDON COUNTY.

1792.	1794.	1800.
Theophilus Rogers,	Phillip Turner,	Simon Wolcott,
Samuel Mather,	Theophilus Rogers,	John R. Watrous,
Thomas Colt,	Simon Wolcott,	John O. Miner,
Joshua Downer,	John R. Watrous,	John Noyes,
Phillip Turner.	Philetus Tracy.	Avery Downer.
1798.	1797.	1801.
Theophilus Rogers,	Phillip Turner,	Simon Wolcott,
Phillip Turner,	Theophilus Rogers,	John R. Watrous,
Simon Wolcott,	Simon Wolcott,	John O. Miner,
John R. Watrous,	John R. Watrous,	Avery Downer,
Philetus Tracy,	Philetus Tracy.	James Lee.
1794.	1796.	1802.
Phillip Turner,	John R. Watrous.	John R. Watrous,
Simon Wolcott,	John Turner,	John O. Miner,
John R. Watrous,	Simon Wolcott,	Avery Downer,
Theophilus Rogers,	Phillip Turner,	James Lee,
Thomas Skinner.	Samuel Mather.	Philetus Tracy.
1795.	1799.	1803.
Theophilus Rogers,	Theophilus Rogers,	John R. Watrous,
Phillip Turner,	Phillip Turner,	John Noyes,
Simon Wolcott,	Simon Wolcott,	James Lee,
John R. Watrous,	Leah Manning,	Thomas Colt, Jr.,
Philetus Tracy.	John R. Watrous.	Avery Downer.

1891.
Samuel Mather,
John R. Watrous,
Avery Downer,
John O. Miner,
Thomas Colt, Jr.

1893.
Simon Walcott,
John R. Watrous,
John O. Miner,
Avery Downer,
Thomas Colt, Jr.

1896.
Simon Walcott,
Avery Downer,
John O. Miner,
Samuel H. P. Lee,
Thomas Colt, Jr.

1897.
John R. Watrous,
John O. Miner,
Avery Downer,
S. H. P. Lee,
Thomas Colt, Jr.

1898.
Avery Downer,
John O. Miner,
Thomas Colt, Jr.,
Samuel Mather,
S. H. P. Lee.

1899.
Samuel Mather,
Avery Downer,
Thomas Colt, Jr.,
S. H. P. Lee,
John O. Miner.

1910.
Samuel Mather,
John O. Miner,
Avery Downer,
Thomas Colt, Jr.,
S. H. P. Lee.

1911.
Avery Downer,
John O. Miner,
Thomas Colt, Jr.,
S. H. P. Lee,
Thomas Miner.

1812.
John O. Miner,
Avery Downer,
Thomas Colt,
S. H. P. Lee,
Thomas Miner.

1818.
Avery Downer,
John O. Miner,
Thomas Colt,
Thomas Miner,
S. H. P. Lee.

1814.
Avery Downer,
Elisha North,
John O. Miner,
S. H. P. Lee,
George Tisdale.

1815.
Avery Downer,
Thomas Colt,
Elisha North,
John O. Miner,
George Tisdale.

1816.
John O. Miner,
Avery Downer,
Elisha North,
S. H. P. Lee,
Vine Utley.

1817.
Elisha North,
John O. Miner,
George Tisdale,
Dyer T. Brainard,
Sylvester Wooster.

1818.
John Smith,
George Downer,
Sylvester Wooster,
Nath'l S. Perkins,
Benj. S. Stoddard.

1819.
John O. Miner,
Elisha North,
S. H. P. Lee,
George Downer,
Sylvester Wooster.

1820.
Nothing is on record
(in the possession
of the clerk) dur-
ing this year.

1821.
John O. Miner,
Elisha North,
Wm. P. Eaton,
Avery Downer,
Lucius Tyler.

1822.
John O. Miner,
Avery Downer,
George Tisdale,
Frederick Morgan,
Dyer T. Brainard.

1823.
Archibald Mercer,
Wm. P. Eaton,
Dyer T. Brainard,
Sylvester Wooster,
John L. Smith.

1824.
Lucius Tyler,
Thomas T. Wells,
Richard P. Tracy,
Dyer T. Brainard,
Wm. P. Eaton.

1825.
Nath'l S. Perkins,
John O. Miner,
Wm. P. Eaton,
Sylvester Wooster,
Archibald Mercer.

1826.
Thomas T. Wells,
Lucius Tyler,
John C. Tibbets,
Reuben Burgess,
Dyer T. Brainard.

1827.
Nath'l S. Perkins,
Dyer T. Brainard,
Wm. W. Miner,
Thomas T. Wells,
Benj. F. Stoddard.

1828.
 Mason F. Manning,
 Joseph Comstock,
 E. B. Downing,
 Lucius Tyler,
 Benj. F. Stoddard.

1829.
 Dyer T. Brainard,
 John C. Tibbets,
 Nathan Tidball,
 John O. Miner,
 Nath'l S. Perkins.

1830.
 Wm. Robinson,
 George E. Palmer,
 Avery Downer,
 Mason Manning,
 Joseph Peabody.

1831.
 Dyer T. Brainard,
 James Morgan,
 Worthington Hooker,
 George E. Palmer,
 Nath'l S. Perkins.

1832.
 Avery Downer,
 E. B. Downing,
 Lucius Tyler,
 Thomas P. Watiles,
 Mason Manning.

1833.
 Dyer T. Brainard,
 Nath'l S. Perkins,
 George E. Palmer,
 R. A. Manwaring,
 Benj. F. Stoddard.

1834.
 Dyer T. Brainard,
 E. B. Downing,
 John C. Tibbets,
 Lucius Tyler,
 Wm. W. Miner.

1835.
 Wm. Hyde,
 James Morgan,
 Ephraim Fellows,
 Dyer T. Brainard,
 Wm. W. Miner.

1836.
 Lucius Tyler,
 Joseph Comstock,
 E. B. Downing,
 Worthington Hooker,
 Dyer T. Brainard.

1837.
 John O. Miner,
 Avery Downer,
 James Rogers,
 Wm. Hyde,
 Dyer T. Brainard.

1838.
 Ralph Farnsworth,
 Wm. W. Miner,
 Joseph Durfee,
 E. B. Downing,
 Austin P. Perkins.

1839.
 Nath'l S. Perkins,
 Dyer T. Brainard,
 H. C. Beardsley,
 John C. Tibbets,
 Jonathan W. Brooks.

1840.
 Joseph Comstock,
 Lucius Tyler,
 Nath'l S. Perkins,
 Joseph Durfee,
 Avery Downer.

1841.
 Dyer T. Brainard,
 James Morgan,
 William Hyde,
 Joseph Durfee,
 Benj. F. Stoddard.

1842.
 Elijah Dyer, Jr.,
 Louis Plamsey,
 Lucius Tyler,
 Ashbel Woodward,
 Eleazer B. Downing.

1843.
 Avery Downer,
 Ralph Farnsworth,
 Thomas P. Watiles,
 Worthington Hooker,
 David Holmes.

1844.
 Joseph Durfee,
 Worthington Hooker,
 Ashbel Woodward,
 Elijah Dyer, Jr.,
 William Hyde.

1845.
 Avery Downer,
 Worthington Hooker,
 Wm. W. J. Warren,
 Mason Manning,
 Isaac G. Porter.

1846.
 Avery Downer,
 Chauncey Burgess,
 John P. Fuller,
 Lucius Tyler,
 Benjamin T. Booth.

1847.
 Chauncey Burgess,
 Ashbel Woodward,
 Rufus W. Mathewson,
 John D. Ford,
 Eleazer B. Downing.

1848.
 Nath'l S. Perkins,
 B. Fordyce Barker,
 Wm. W. Miner,
 Dyer T. Brainard,
 George E. Palmer.

1849.
 Ashbel B. Halla,
 Ashbel Woodward,
 John C. Bolles,
 Avery Downer,
 Joseph Comstock.

1850.
 Eleazer B. Downing,
 Wm. Hyde, Jr.,
 Chauncey Burgess,
 Dyer T. Brainard,
 Mason Manning.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY.

1792.

James Potter,
Thaddeus Betts,
Hosea Hurlburt,
James Clark,
Amos Mead.

1793.

James Potter,
Thaddeus Betts,
Hosea Hurlburt,
James Clark,
James E. Beach.

1794.

Hosea Hurlburt,
Eli Perry,
Joseph Trowbridge,
Benjamin Perry,
James Clark.

1795.

James Clark,
James Potter,
Gideon Shepard,
James E. Beach,
William Shelton.

1796.

James Potter,
Thaddeus Betts,
Gideon Shepard,
William Shelton,
Eli Perry.

1797.

James Potter,
Gideon Shepard,
James E. Beach,
William Shelton,
Benjamin Perry.

1798.

James Potter,
Thaddeus Betts,
William Shelton,
James E. Beach,
Hosea Hurlburt.

1799.

James Potter,
William Shelton,
Ezra Curtis,
Hosea Hurlburt,
James E. Beach.

1800.

James Potter,
Hosea Hurlburt,
Gideon Shepard,
Joseph Trowbridge,
Thaddeus Betts.

1801.

James Potter,
Thaddeus Betts,
William Shelton,
James E. Beach,
Benjamin Curtis.

1802.

James Potter,
Hosea Hurlburt,
William Shelton,
Joseph Trowbridge,
James E. Beach.

1803.

Joseph Trowbridge,
Hosea Hurlburt,
William Shelton,
Samuel Webb,
Eli Perry.

1804.

William Shelton,
Joseph Trowbridge,
Thaddeus Betts,
Eli Perry,
Benjamin Curtis.

1805.

Hosea Hurlburt,
Benjamin Perry,
Eli Perry,
William Beard,
Benjamin Curtis.

1806.

Joseph Trowbridge,
Benjamin Perry,
William Shelton,
Benjamin Curtis,
William Beard.

1807.

Joseph Trowbridge,
William Shelton,
Hosea Hurlburt,
Benjamin Curtis,
William Beard.

1808.

Benjamin Perry,
Gideon Shepard,
William Shelton,
Benjamin Curtis,
Gideon Beardley.

1809.

Eli Perry,
Gideon Shepard,
Joseph Trowbridge,
Benjamin Perry,
Gideon Beardley.

1810.

Benjamin Perry,
Benj. Curtis, Jr.,
Gideon Beardley,
Nash A. Lacy,
Gideon Shepard.

1811.

William Shelton,
Benj. Curtis, Jr.,
Gideon Beardley,
Daniel Comstock,
Benjamin Perry.

1812.

Daniel Comstock,
Benj. Curtis, Jr.,
Gideon Beardley,
Nash A. Lacy,
Benjamin Perry.

1813.
Bennet Perry,
Benj. Curtis, 2d,
Daniel Comstock,
Gideon Beardsley,
Amel Hoyt.

1814.
Gideon Shephard,
Gideon Beardsley,
Daniel Comstock,
Benj. Curtis, Jr.,
Alfred H. Betts.

1815.
Benjamin Curtis,
Daniel Comstock,
Gideon Beardsley,
Noah A. Lacy,
Alfred H. Betts.

1816.
William Shelton,
Gideon Beardsley,
Nathan Tisdale,
Daniel Comstock,
Isaac Jennings.

1817.
William Shelton,
Noah A. Lacy,
Isaac Jennings,
Gideon Beardsley,
Nathan Tisdale.

1818.
Bennet Perry,
Gideon Beardsley,
Noah A. Lacy,
Amel Hoyt,
Isaac Jennings.

1819.
Gideon Shephard,
Gideon Beardsley,
Noah A. Lacy,
Isaac Jennings,
R. B. Bonaford.

1820.
An adjourned Con-
vention.

1821.
Gideon Beardsley,
Nathan Tisdale,
John Tomlinson,
John Judson,
Elijah Middlebrook.

1822.
Nathan Tisdale,
E. Middlebrook,
Cyrreus Booth,
J. C. Hardywar,
G. Beardsley.

1823.
G. Beardsley,
Nathan Tisdale,
Cyrreus H. Booth,
Lloyd Seely,
E. Middlebrook.

1824.
E. Middlebrook,
Nathan Tisdale,
Harroo Ames,
Cyrreus H. Booth,
Rufus Blakeman.

1825.
E. Middlebrook,
Samuel Simons,
Wm. R. Shelton,
Cyrreus H. Booth,
John Tomlinson.

1826.
E. Middlebrook,
John Judson,
Samuel Simons,
Daniel Upford,
Ovin J. Taylor.

1827.
E. Middlebrook,
John Goulding,
Samuel Simons,
William T. Shelton,
Daniel Upford.

1828.
E. Middlebrook,
Samuel Simons,
Daniel Upford,
John A. McLean,
William T. Shelton.

1829.
Samuel Simons,
Sturges Bulkley,
Lloyd Seely,
Geo. Blackman,
T. D. Shepard.

1830.
John Judson,
Samuel Simons,
Daniel Upford,
John Goulding,
Rufus Blakeman.

1831.
S. Middlebrook,
T. D. Shepard,
E. Middlebrook,
M. N. Shelton,
John Tomlinson.

1832.
E. Middlebrook,
Rufus Blakeman,
Sturges Bulkley,
Lloyd Seely,
John Tomlinson.

1833.
E. Middlebrook,
Geo. Blackman,
Rufus Blakeman,
James Baldwin,
Lloyd Seely.

1834.
E. Middlebrook,
Rufus Blakeman,
A. L. Williams,
James Baldwin,
James Sherwood.

1835.
Wm. T. Shelton,
Geo. Blackman,
Lloyd Seely,
Rufus Blakeman,
Ambrose Beardsley.

1836.
Ezra P. Bennett,
Samuel Beach,
Sturges Bulkley,
A. L. Williams,
George Dyer.

1837. J. T. Denison, Ezra P. Bennett, E. B. Middlebrook, Rufus Blakeman, John Jackson.	1842. Samuel Simons, J. T. Denison, Rufus Blakeman, E. B. Middlebrook, Geo. Blackman.	1847. Sturges Bulkley, A. L. Williams, H. N. Bennett, S. Middlebrook, Geo. Dyer.
1838. J. T. Denison, Chauncey Ayres, James Sherwood, Rufus Blakeman, Daniel H. Nash.	1843. Samuel Beach, George Dyer, S. V. B. Ten Broeck, Sturges Bulkley, Edwin A. Lucy.	1848. Rufus Blakeman, Sturges Bulkley, Samuel Beach, H. N. Bennett, E. Middlebrook.
1839. Rufus Blakeman, Emory Bissell, Sturges Bulkley, J. T. Denison, Uriah Turner.	1844. E. Middlebrook, Rufus Blakeman, A. L. Williams, E. B. Middlebrook, Geo. Blackman.	1849. Rufus Blakeman, Samuel Beach, H. N. Bennett, E. Middlebrook, Geo. Blackman.
1840. Rufus Blakeman, Geo. Blackman, Ezra P. Bennett, Samuel Beach, J. T. Denison.	1845. Rufus Blakeman, Samuel Beach, C. Ayres, Samuel S. Noyes, Geo. Blackman.	1850. T. J. Jackson, Samuel Beach, Geo. Blackman, E. Middlebrook.
1841. H. N. Bennett, Sturges Bulkley, A. L. Williams, Samuel S. Noyes, R. B. Bradford.	1846. Samuel Simons, Rufus Blakeman, Samuel Beach, Geo. Blackman, Lloyd Seeley.	

LITCHFIELD COUNTY.

1791. Seth Bird, Samuel Orton, Samuel Woodward, Seth Hastings, Samuel Rockwell.	1794. Seth Bird, Daniel Sheldon, Samuel Woodward, Nathaniel Perry, Jesse Carrington.	1796. Samuel Orton, Daniel Sheldon, Samuel Rockwell, Nathaniel Perry, Caleb Austin.
1793. Seth Bird, Daniel Sheldon, Seth Hastings, Samuel Woodward, Samuel Orton.	1795. Seth Bird, Daniel Sheldon, Samuel Woodward, Samuel Rockwell, Nathaniel Perry.	1797. Daniel Sheldon, Samuel Rockwell, Nathaniel Perry, Phineas Meigs, Aaron Coleman.

1795. Samuel Orton, Daniel Sheldon, Samuel Woodward, Nathaniel Perry, Caleb Austin.	1806. Nathaniel Perry, Jesse Carrington, Gideon Woodruff, Benjamin Welch, Frederick Flussh.	1814. Nathaniel Perry, Jesse Carrington, Warren R. Fowler, Elijah Lyman, Jehiel Williams.
1799. Samuel Woodward, Nathaniel Perry, Jesse Carrington, Abel Catlin, Anthony Barnitt.	1807. Nathaniel Perry, Samuel Woodward, Jesse Carrington, Benjamin Welch, Warren R. Fowler.	1815. Nathaniel Perry, Jesse Carrington, Warren R. Fowler, Elijah Lyman, Jehiel Williams.
1803. Samuel Orton, Samuel Woodward, Jesse Carrington, Nathaniel Perry, Anthony Barnitt.	1808. Samuel Woodward, Nathaniel Perry, Jesse Carrington, Warren R. Fowler, Benjamin Welch.	1816. Nathaniel Perry, Jesse Carrington, Warren R. Fowler, Elijah Lyman, Jehiel Williams.
1801. Samuel Woodward, Anthony Barnitt, Jesse Carrington, Nathaniel Perry, Benjamin Welch.	1809. Jesse Carrington, Benjamin Welch, Warren R. Fowler, Elijah Lyman, Samuel Buel.	1817. Nathaniel Perry, Jesse Carrington, Warren R. Fowler, William Buel, Jehiel Williams.
1802. Samuel Woodward, Nathaniel Perry, Jesse Carrington, Benjamin Welch, Gideon Woodruff.	1810. Jesse Carrington, Nathaniel Perry, Warren R. Fowler, Benjamin Welch, Samuel Buel.	1818. William Buel, Warren R. Fowler, Benjamin Welch, John Calhoun, Joshua Cornwall.
1803. Samuel Woodward, Jesse Carrington, Benjamin Welch, Gideon Woodruff, Elijah Lyman.	1811. Nathaniel Perry, Jesse Carrington, Timothy Clark, Elijah Lyman, Samuel Buel.	1819. Nathaniel Perry, Jesse Carrington, William Buel, Warren R. Fowler, Conant Catlin.
1804. Samuel Woodward, Nathaniel Perry, Benjamin Welch, Timothy Clark, Elijah Lyman.	1812. Nathaniel Perry, Jesse Carrington, Timothy Clark, Elijah Lyman, Warren R. Fowler.	1820. Nathaniel Perry, Jesse Carrington, William Buel, Warren R. Fowler, Conant Catlin.
1805. Samuel Woodward, Jesse Carrington, Nathaniel Perry, Benjamin Welch, Gideon Woodruff.	1813. Nathaniel Perry, Jesse Carrington, Elijah Lyman, Samuel Buel, Warren R. Fowler.	1821. Samuel Bickwell, William Buel, John Calhoun, Ezraus L. Hart, Warren R. Fowler.

1822.	1829.	1838.
Samuel Beckwith, William Bael, Warren R. Fowler, Roswell Abernethy, Conant Catlin.	Conant Catlin, Luther Ticknor, Moses A. Lee, Norman Hall, Benj. Welch, Jr.	Benj. Welch, Jr., S. W. Gold, Myron Downs, C. H. Wells, E. D. Hudson.
1823.	1831.	1839.
William Bael, Warren R. Fowler, Roswell Abernethy, Conant Catlin, Horatio Gridley.	R. M. Fowler, Geo. O. Jarvis, Manly Peters, Norman Lyman, L. T. Hollister.	R. M. Fowler, W. J. Barry, Norman Lyman, A. M. Huxley, J. G. Beckwith.
1824.	1832.	1840.
Samuel Bael, Gaylord Wells, Samuel W. Gold, Luther Ticknor, Horatio Gridley.	Johnson C. Hatch, Lyman Catlin, Ralph Dressing, Joel G. Candee, J. G. Beckwith.	R. M. Fowler, Manly Peters, Burrin B. North, Myron Downs, G. H. St. John.
1825.	1833.	1841.
Warren R. Fowler, William Bael, Roswell Abernethy, Conant Catlin, Luther Ticknor.	Samuel Bael, G. H. Minor, Theodore C. Hand, Caleb Ticknor, Samuel W. Gold.	J. G. Beckwith, R. L. Woodruff, S. W. Gold, Wells Beardsley, A. M. Huxley.
1826.	1834.	1842.
Samuel Bael, Conant Catlin, Johnson C. Hatch, Samuel W. Gold, John L. West.	Norman Lyman, Benj. Welch, Lyman Catlin, Gaylord Wells, R. M. Fowler.	R. M. Fowler, Benj. Welch, Jr., Samuel Bael, John S. Wolcott, Charles Vail.
1827.	1835.	1843.
Jehiel Williams, Gaylord Wells, Lyman Catlin, Samuel R. Childs, Luther Ticknor.	Johnson C. Hatch, J. G. Beckwith, Burrin B. North, Manly Peters, Charles Vail.	R. M. Woodruff, Myron Downs, Benj. Welch, Jr., S. W. Gold, H. Baldwin.
1828.	1836.	1844.
William Bael, Benjamin Welch, Jr., Johnson C. Hatch, Joel G. Candee, Conant Catlin.	Luther Ticknor, E. D. Hudson, Lyman Catlin, R. M. Fowler, Samuel Bael.	Johnson C. Hatch, Geo. Seymour, Norman Lyman, John A. Gillette, T. T. Seeley.
1829.	1837.	1845.
R. C. Abernethy, Samuel W. Gold, Luther Ticknor, Jairus Case, R. M. Fowler.	Norman Lyman, J. G. Beckwith, Luther Ticknor, Johnson C. Hatch, G. H. St. John.	R. M. Fowler, J. G. Beckwith, W. B. DeForest, E. B. Lyman, Albert A. Wright.

1846.
Johnson C. Hatch,
S. W. Gold,
R. M. Woodruff,
Myron Downs,
Marly Peters.

1847.
Benj. Welch, Jr.,
Loomis North,
Solney H. Lyman,
D. E. Bostwick,
A. M. Huxley.

1848.
Nathan Lyman,
Wm. W. Welch,
A. A. Wright,
Johnson C. Hatch,
B. B. North.

1849.
J. G. Beckwith,
P. Beardsley,
R. M. Fowler,
Myron Downs,
E. P. Lyman.

1850.
Marly Peters,
Ralph Derrig,
James Welch,
G. H. St. John,
J. E. South.

WINDHAM COUNTY.

1792.
John Clark,
Elisha Perkins,
Elisha Lord,
A. Waldo,
Isaac Knight.

1793.
John Clark,
Elisha Perkins,
Elisha Lord,
A. Waldo,
Allan Campbell.

1794.
Elisha Perkins,
Elisha Lord,
John Clark,
Joseph Baker,
Jonathan Wall.

1795.
Elisha Lord,
Elisha Perkins,
Joseph Baker,
John Brewster,
Jonathan Hall.

1796.
Elisha Lord,
John Brewster,
Joseph Baker,
Joseph Palmer,
Leonard Bacon.

1797.
John Brewster,
Jonathan Hall,
Leonard Bacon,
Thaddeus Clark,
Perciel Hutchins.

1798.
John Brewster,
Joseph Palmer,
Leonard Bacon,
Thomas Hubbard,
Thaddeus Clark.

1799.
Jonathan Hall,
Leonard Bacon,
Thaddeus Clark,
Thomas Hubbard,
Perciel Hutchins.

1800.
Perciel Hutchins,
Leonard Bacon,
Jonathan Hall,
Thomas Hubbard,
Siah Fuller.

1801.
Perciel Hutchins,
Jonathan Hall,
Siah Fuller,
Thomas Hubbard,
Leonard Bacon.

1802.
Perciel Hutchins,
Robert Gossamer,
Siah Fuller,
Jonathan Hall,
Thaddeus Clark.

1803.
Perciel Hutchins,
Joseph Palmer,
Jonathan Hall,
Thaddeus Clark,
Siah Fuller.

* 1806.
Thomas Morse,
Jonathan Hall,
Thomas Hubbard,
Darius Hutchins,
Joseph Palmer, Jr.

1807.
Thomas Hubbard,
Joseph Palmer, Jr.,
Thomas Morse,
Siah Fuller,
Darius Hutchins.

1808.
Thomas Hubbard,
Siah Fuller,
Darius Hutchins,
Joseph Palmer, Jr.,
Thomas Morse.

1809.
Thomas Hubbard,
Joseph Palmer, Jr.,
Thomas Morse,
Robert Grosvenor,
Andrew Harris.

1810.
Darius Hutchins,
Andrew Harris,
Rufus Johnson,
Erastus Robinson,
Daniel Lyman.

1811.
Thomas Hubbard,
Joseph Palmer, Jr.,
Darius Hutchins,
Sah Fuller,
Andrew Harris.

1812.
Thomas Hubbard,
Sah Fuller,
Rufus Johnson,
Andrew Harris,
Daniel Lyman.

1813.
Penzel Hutchins,
Thomas Hubbard,
Rufus Johnson,
Sah Fuller,
Joseph Palmer, Jr.,

1814.
Thomas Hubbard,
Penzel Hutchins,
Rufus Johnson,
Darius Hutchins,
Joseph Palmer, Jr.

1815.
Penzel Hutchins,
Thomas Hubbard,
Joseph Palmer, Jr.,
Andrew Harris,
Rufus Johnson.

1816.
Thomas Hubbard,
Darius Hutchins,
Joseph Palmer, Jr.,
Rufus Johnson,
William A. Brewster.

1817.
Thomas Hubbard,
Darius Hutchins,
Elijah Baldwin,
Charles Moulton,
Andrew Harris.

1818.
Thomas Hubbard,
Joseph Palmer, Jr.,
Andrew Harris,
Silas Fuller,
Penzel Hutchins.

1819.
Thomas Hubbard,
Andrew Harris,
Penzel Hutchins,
Joseph Palmer, Jr.,
William A. Brewster.

1820.
No record.

1821.
Josiah Fuller,
Andrew Harris,
Earl Swift,
Joseph Palmer, Jr.,
Elijah Baldwin.

1822.
Thomas Hubbard,
Luther Manning,
Charles Moulton,
Earl Swift,
Archibald Welch.

1823.
Josiah Fuller,
Elijah Baldwin,
Waldo Hutchins,
Luther Manning,
Chester Hunt.

1824.
Josiah Fuller,
Joseph Palmer, Jr.,
Earl Swift,
Silas Fuller,
Harvey Campbell.

1825.
Andrew Harris,
Waldo Hutchins,
Chester Hunt,
William Webb,
Elijah Baldwin.

1826.
Andrew Harris,
Joseph Palmer,
Earl Swift,
Archibald Welch,
Luther Manning.

1827.
Josiah Fuller,
Joseph Palmer,
Harvey Campbell,
Ann Witter,
William A. Brewster.

1828.
Elijah Baldwin,
Darius Hutchins,
Hiram Holt,
William H. Cogswell,
Moses Burgess.

1829.
Andrew Harris,
Joseph Palmer,
Orin Witter,
William Hutchins,
Patrick Carpenter.

1830.
Elijah Baldwin,
Joseph Palmer,
Thomas Houghton,
William A. Brewster,
William Webb.

1831.
Hiram Holt,
Andrew Harris,
John G. Pierce,
Isaac Clark,
Samuel Bowen.

1832.
Luther Manning,
Chester Hunt,
Moses Burgess,
Patrick Carpenter,
James B. Whitcomb.

1823. William A. Brewster, Harvey Campbell, William Grosvenor, William Hutchins, Charles T. Morse.	1829. Hiram Holt, William H. Cogswell, Darius Hutchins, Justin Hammond, Lorenzo Meary.	1845. William Witter, Justin Hammond, Milton Bradford, Nathan S. Pike, Chester Hunt.
1834. Andrew Harris, David E. Hall, Wm. H. Campbell, Darius Hutchins, William Witter.	1840. William Hutchins, William Witter, Calvin B. Bromley, Eliaser Litchfield, John H. Simmons.	1846. Harvey Campbell, William H. Cogswell, Eliaser Litchfield, Fenner H. Peckham, Lewis Williams.
1835. Hiram Holt, Eliaser Litchfield, Justin Hammond, Virgil M. Palmer, Mosey Burgess.	1841. Asa Witter, William Hutchins, William Witter, Eliaser Litchfield, William Webb.	1847. William Witter, Daniel A. Hovey, David E. Hall, Hiram Holt, Lorenzo Meary.
1836. Elijah Baldwin, Isaac Clark, Samuel Bowen, John G. Pierce, William Grosvenor.	1842. William H. Cogswell, William Witter, Chester Hunt, Asa Witter, Harvey Campbell.	1848. Hiram Holt, Joseph Palmer, Elijah Baldwin, Jr., William H. Cogswell, James B. Whitcomb.
1837. Andrew Harris, Daniel A. Hovey, William Witter, John H. Simmons, Orrin Witter.	1843. Joseph Palmer, Henry H. Hough, James B. Whitcomb, Calvin B. Bromley, Nathan Adams.	1849. Orrin Witter, Asa Witter, Charles H. Fuller, Fenner H. Peckham, DeWitt C. Lathrop.
1838. Elijah Baldwin, Harvey Campbell, Chester Hunt, Wm. A. Brewster, Benj. B. Spalding.	1844. Mosey Burgess, Dyer Houghs, Lorenzo Meary, Orrin Witter, Cyrus Hutchins.	1850. Daniel A. Hovey, Samuel Bowen, Nathan S. Pike, William Witter, David E. Hall.

MIDDLEBURY COUNTY.

1792. Thomas Mosley, John Ely, John Osborn.	1794. John Osborn, Thomas Mosley, Ebenzer Tracy.	1795. Thomas Mosley, John Osborn, Richard Ely.
1793. Thomas Mosley, John Osborn, Elisha Phelps.	1795. Thomas Mosley, John Osborn, John Ely.	1797. Thomas Mosley, John Osborn, William B. Hall.

1798.
Thomas Mosely,
Ebenzer Tracy,
William B. Hall.

1799.
No record.

1800.
No record.

1801.
Thomas Mosley,
William B. Hall,
Richard Ely.

1802.
Thomas Mosley,
William B. Hall,
Richard Ely.

1803.
Thomas Mosley,
William B. Hall,
Elisha Mather.

1804.
Thomas Mosley,
William B. Hall,
Smith Clark.

1805.
Thomas Mosley,
Richard Ely,
William B. Hall.

1806.
William B. Hall,
Smith Clark,
Leti Ward.

1807.
Richard Ely, Jr.,
Smith Clark,
John Richmond.

1808.
No record.

1809.
No record.

1810.
Richard Ely, Jr.,
Smith Clark,
Samuel Carter.

1811.
Richard Ely, Jr.,
Christopher Holmes,
John Richmond.

1812.
Richard Ely, Jr.,
Samuel Carter,
John Richmond.

1813.
Richard Ely, Jr.,
Samuel Carter,
John Richmond.

1814.
Richard Ely, Jr.,
Samuel Carter,
John Richmond.

1815.
Richard Ely, Jr.,
Samuel Carter,
Thomas Miner.

1816.
William Tully,
Samuel Carter,
Thomas Miner.

1817.
William Tully,
Samuel Carter,
Thomas Miner.

1818.
William Tully,
Jesse Bigelow,
Thomas Miner.

1819.
Austin Alcott,
Gideon A. Dickinson,
Thomas Miner.

1820.
No record.

1821.
Thomas Miner,
Samuel Carter,
William Tully.

1822.
Thomas Miner,
Samuel Carter,
Andrew F. Warner.

1823.
Thomas Miner,
Samuel Carter,
Andrew F. Warner.

1824.
Thomas Miner,
Rufus Turner,
Andrew F. Warner.

1825.
Thomas Miner,
Samuel Carter,
Frederick Morgan.

1826.
Thomas Miner,
Rufus Turner,
Richard Warner.

1827.
Samuel Carter,
Edward S. Coor,
Dan Potts.

1828.
Samuel Carter,
Henry Woodward,
Rufus Turner.

1829.
Samuel Carter,
Henry Woodward,
Thomas Miner.

1830.
Samuel Carter,
Richard Warner,
Charles Smith.

1831.
Thomas Miner,
Ira Hutchinson,
Benj. H. Catlin.

1832.
Asa H. King,
Samuel Carter,
David Harrison.

1833.
Thomas Miner,
Asa M. Holt,
Caleb H. Austin.

1834. Richard Warner, S. B. Willey, Samuel Carter.	1839. Rufus Turner, G. H. Abernethy, B. H. Catlin.	1846. Hamilton Brewer, Rufus Baker, Ambrose Pratt.
1835. Gen. H. Abernethy, Ira Hutchinson, Charles Smith.	1841. Thomas Miner 2d, Seth L. Child, Elisha B. Nye.	1847. Elisha B. Nye, A. H. King, Wm. H. Tremaine.
1836. Joseph Bennett, Asa H. King, B. H. Catlin.	1842. Charles Woodward, Ira Hutchinson, Rufus Turner.	1848. Wm. B. Casey, G. C. H. Gilbert, F. W. Shepard.
1837. Charles Woodward, Thomas Miner, 2d, A. M. Holt.	1843. William B. Casey, A. H. King, Datus Williams.	1849. Franklin Woodruff, E. P. Fowler, Ira Hutchinson.
1838. Thomas Miner, Asa L. Spalding, F. W. Shepard.	1844. Gen. G. Jarvis, F. W. Shepard, Horace Burr.	1850. Richard Warner, Datus Williams, Rufus Baker.
1839. Thomas Miner, Ira Hutchinson, Richard Warner.	1845. Ira Hutchinson, A. M. Holt, Richard Warner.	

TOLLAND TOWNSHIP.

1792. Ichabod Warner, Jeremiah West, Joseph Parker.	1797. Ichabod Warner, William Grosvonts, Simon Field.	1802. Samuel Willard, Ruggles Carpenter, Nathan Howard.
1793. Ichabod Warner, Jeremiah West, Miner Grant.	1798. Ichabod Warner, Jeremiah West, Joseph Parker.	1803. Nathan Howard, Ruggles Carpenter, Samuel Willard.
1794. Ichabod Warner, Lewis Collins, William Grosvonts.	1799. Ichabod Warner, Jeremiah West, Simon Field.	1804. Jeremiah West, Ruggles Carpenter, John S. Peters.
1795. Ichabod Warner, Joseph Parker, Lewis Collins.	1805. Jeremiah West, Nathan Howard, Ruggles Carpenter.	1805. Jeremiah West, Ruggles Carpenter, John S. Peters.
1796. Ichabod Warner, Jeremiah West, Lewis Collins.	1801. Jeremiah West, Ruggles Carpenter, Nathan Howard.	1806. John S. Peters, Ruggles Carpenter, Nathan Howard.

1807. Elihu Hunt, John S. Peters, Ruggles Carpenter.	1810. John S. Peters, John Grant, Samuel Simons.	1821. Earl Swift, Jabez L. White, Warren A. Fuller.
1808. Ruggles Carpenter, John S. Peters, Elihu McKay.	1820. No record.	1822. Elihu Hunt, Alden Skinner, Archibald Welch.
1809. Ruggles Carpenter, John S. Peters, Nathan Howard.	1821. John S. Peters, Elihu Hunt, Jabez L. White.	1823. Silas Fuller, Earl Swift, Oliver K. Isham.
1810. Samuel Willard, John S. Peters, Elihu McKay.	1822. John S. Peters, Nathan Howard, Elihu Hunt.	1824. Abijah Ladd, Horatio Dow, Warren A. Fuller.
1811. Nathan Howard, John S. Peters, Daniel Peck.	1823. Nathan Howard, John Grant, Horatio Dow.	1825. Joseph C. Dow, Earl Swift, Alvan Talcott.
1812. John S. Peters, Daniel Peck, Rodolphus Ladd.	1824. John S. Peters, Elihu Hunt, Joseph Sibley.	1826. Jabez L. White, Horatio Dow, Alden Skinner.
1813. Samuel Willard, John S. Peters, Judah Elias.	1825. Allen Hyde, Orrin Hunt, Abijah Ladd.	1827. Archibald Welch, Wm. H. Richardson, Oliver K. Isham.
1814. Nathan Howard, Rodolphus Ladd, Silas Fuller.	1826. Elihu Hunt, Orrin Hunt, Alden Skinner.	1828. Earl Swift, Joshua C. Blodget, Alden Skinner.
1815. Nathan Howard, John S. Peters, Daniel Peck.	1827. Jabez L. White, Abijah Ladd, Chamney Burgess.	1829. Orrin C. White, Elihu Hunt, Abijah Ladd.
1816. John S. Peters, Daniel Peck, Elihu Hunt.	1828. Silas Fuller, Horatio Dow, Archibald Welch.	1830. Horatio Dow, Wm. H. Richardson, Joseph C. Dow.
1817. Nathan Howard, John S. Peters, Daniel Peck.	1829. Silas Fuller, Earl Swift, Oliver K. Isham.	1831. Timothy Dimock, Jabez L. White, Abijah Ladd.
1818. John S. Peters, Daniel Peck, John Grant.	1830. Elihu Hunt, Orson Wood, Timothy Dimock.	1832. Orson Wood, Horatio Dow, Oliver K. Isham.

1843.	1846.	1849.
Wm. H. Richardson,	Abijah Ladd,	Adonijah White,
Eleazer Lindsay,	Norman Brigham,	Orson Wood,
Wm. N. Clark.	Charles T. Sumner.	Elijah A. Woodward.
1844.	1847.	1850.
Oiver K. Isham,	John H. Manning,	Orrin C. White,
E. J. Swift,	Wm. N. Clark,	Benj. M. Conings,
Horatio Dow.	Alden Skinner.	Timothy Dimeck.
1845.	1848.	
F. L. Dickinson,	F. L. Dickinson,	
Alden Skinner,	Gilbert H. Preston,	
Orrin C. White.	Alden Skinner.	

SUMMARY OF OFFICERS AND FELLOWS, LIVING AND DEAD.

	Living.	Dead.	Total.
Presidents.	4	12	16
Vice Presidents,	8	14	22
Secretaries,	9	0	18
Treasurers,	4	0	12

Committees.

Examination,	25	14	39
Nomination of Professors,	31	17	48
Retreat for the laane,	25	8	33

Fellows.

	Living.	Removed & Living.	Dead.	Unsettled.	Total.
Hartford County,	—	—	—	—	—
N. Haven "	41	5	25	2	73
N. London "	—	—	—	—	—
Fairfield "	28	7	28	—	63
Litchfield "	32	12	31	—	75
Windham "	—	—	—	—	—
Middlesex "	20	12	20	2	54
Tolland "	—	—	—	—	—

Committee of Examination first appointed in 1813.

1813 *Timothy Hall,	1814	1830 Earl Swift,	1843
*Joseph Foote,	1818	1836 Milo L. North,	1837
*Silas Fuller,	1814	1837 *Thomas Miner,	1841
1814 *Thomas Hubbard,	1822	David S. Dodge,	1838
*Nathan Strong, Jr.,	1818	1838 Milo L. North,	1839
1816 *Thomas Miner,	1824	1839 Jeremiah T. Denison,	1843
1818 *Warren R. Fowler,	1827	1841 Archibald Welch,	1846
1822 *Eli Todd,	1824	1842 Charles Woodward,	1845
1824 William Bael,	1827	1843 *Silas Fuller,	1846
1825 *Sam'l B. Woodward,	1826	R. M. Fowler,	1844
1826 *Silas Fuller,	1837	Wm. H. Cogswell,	1847
1827 *Thomas Miner,	1828	1844 Rufus Blakeman,	1847
Elijah Middlebrook,	1828	1845 Josiah G. Beckwith,	1843
1828 John O. Miner,	1829	1846 George Sumner,	1848
*Conant Cadin,	1829	Richard Warner,	1847
1830 *Thomas Miner,	1830	1847 H. A. Grant,	1849
*Sam'l B. Woodward,	1833	Earl Swift,	1849
1830 *Conant Cadin,	1831	William Witter,	1850
*Andrew Harris,	1833	1848 Richard Warner,	1850
1831 *Luther Tucker,	1843	Alvan Talcott,	
1832 Archibald Mercer,	1834	1849 Hiram Holt,	
1833 *Thomas Miner,	1834	Oren Wood,	
Wm. S. Persons,	1835	1850 P. A. Jewett,	
1834 Dyer T. Brainard,	1842	Benj. Welch,	
*Joseph Palmer,	1836		

*Committee to accompany Superintendent of Retreat for the
Inmate, first appointed at the Convention, 1823.*

1823 *Thomas Hubbard,	1839	Wm. H. Cogswell,	1843
*Thomas Miner,	1827	1843 Samuel Bael,	1844
William Bael,	1824	*Jabez L. White,	1845
*Josiah Fuller,	1825	1844 Norman Lyman,	1845
William Tally,	1824	1845 J. G. Porter,	1847
1824 Eli Ives,	1847	1845 Samuel Beach,	1848
*Silas Fuller,	1825	William Witter,	1847
1825 William Bael,	1838	1846 Johnson C. Hatch,	1849
John S. Peters,	1838	1847 David S. Dodge,	1848
1827 *Josiah Fuller,	1829	*R. M. Woodruff,	1849
1829 George Sumner,	1831	Surges Buckley,	1850
1831 Samuel Carter,	1835	1848 Hiram Holt,	1849
1835 *Thomas Miner,	1835	Worthington Hooker,	
1838 George Sumner,	1842	1849 Ashbel Woodward,	
Eleazer B. Downing,	1845	Orrin Winer,	
Samuel W. Gold,	1842	Thomas Miner,	1850
1839 *Amariah Brigham,	1849	1850 William Witter,	
1840 Richard Warner,	1846	Rufus Blakeman,	
1842 Benjamin Welch, Jr.,	1843		

*Committee for the nomination of Professors in Yale College,
first appointed in 1811.*

1811 *John R. Watrous,	1812 *Joseph Post.
*Mason F. Cogswell,	*Obadiah Huchkiss.
Eli Ives,	1811

*Standing Committee for the nomination of Professors, first
appointed in 1816.*

1816 *Mason F. Cogswell, 1823	1836 *Joseph Palmer, 1838
*Thomas Hubbard, 1827	William S. Pierson, 1842
*Nathan Strong, Jr., 1817	Sturges Bulkeley, 1842
1817 William Tully, 1821	Isaac Goodsell, 1843
1818 *Thomas Miner, 1821	1839 Josiah G. Beckwith, 1842
1821 *Eli Todd, 1824	1840 Rufus Turner, 1842
1824 *Elijah P. Reed, 1825	1842 *Silas Fuller, 1843
1825 *Thomas Miner, 1827	William Witter, 1843
*Sam'l B. Woodward, 1827	Orson Wood, 1843
1827 Jehiel Williams, 1829	Norman Lyman, 1843
*Isaac Jennings, 1829	1843 William S. Pierson, 1847
*Joseph Palmer, 1828	Reynold Wells, 1847
1829 Elijah Middlebrook, 1829	Washington Hooker, 1844
1829 *Eli Todd, 1834	James B. Whitcomb, 1844
*Andrew Harris, 1830	Elijah Middlebrook, 1845
*Thomas Miner, 1832	1844 Asahel Woodward 1848
1830 *Luther Ticknor, 1831	Henry C. Boardley, 1845
1831 George Sumner, 1832	1845 R. M. Fowler, 1846
1832 *Joseph Palmer, 1834	1845 E. K. Hart, 1848
*Henry Woodward, 1833	1846 George Backman, 1849
1833 Dyer T. Brainard, 1834	1847 N. B. Ives, 1849
George Sumner, 1836	George B. Hawley, 1850
*Silas Fuller, 1834	1848 Wm. H. Cogswell, 1850
1834 Rufus Backman, 1836	Alden Skinner.
Milo L. North, 1836	1849 Elijah Middlebrook,
*Andrew Harris, 1840	Norman Lyman.
Gaylord Wells, 1835	1850 Johnson C. Hatch.
1835 *Elisha North, 1836	Josiah G. Beckwith.

*Catalogue of those who have received the Honorary Degree of
Doctor of Medicine from the Connecticut Medical Society.*

1793.		1812.	
*Leverett Hubbard,	N. Haven,	*John Barker,	
*Elihu Tudor,	E. Windsor.	*Timothy Hall,	E. Hartford.
1794.		1813.	
*Ezeas Manson,	N. Haven,	*Daniel Sheldon,	Litchfield,
*Seth Bird,		*Eli Todd,	Farmington,
*Benjamin Rush,	Phila., Pa.,	*Elisha North,	N. Haven,
*Samuel Bard,	N. York,	1814.	
*John Bard,	N. York.	*Nathaniel Perry,	
1795.		*John Bester,	Simsbury,
*James Potter,		*Solomon Everett,	Canter,
*Thomas Mosley,	E. Haddam.	*Richard Ely,	Saybrook,
1796.		*Joseph Foot,	North Haven.
*Theophilus Rogers,		1816.	
*Jared Potter,		*William Shelton,	Stratford,
1799.		*Philemon Teary,	Norwich,
*John Warren,	Boston, Mass.	*Simeon Field,	
1802.		*Pease Hatchins,	Killingly.
*Jos. Hamilton,	Hudson, N. Y.,	1815.	
A. Tomlinson,	Milford,	*Joseph Palmer,	Ashford,
*John Spaulding,	N. Haven,	*Jesse Carrington,	Colebrook,
*Hosea Hurlbut,		*Sylvester Wells,	Hartford,
*Eliakim Fish,	Hartford.	John O. Miner,	Groton.
1804.		1817.	
*Jeremiah West,	Tolland,	Thomas Colt,	N. London,
*J. R. Watrous,	Colchester,	*W. R. Fowler,	Washington,
*Samuel Mather,		*Nathan Howard,	Coventry,
*William Eastis,	Boston, Mass.	John S. Peters,	Hebron,
1807.		Avery Downer,	Proctor.
*Joseph Trowbridge,		1818.	
1810.		*Thomas Miner,	Middletown,
*M. F. Cogswell,	Hartford,	William Buel,	Litchfield,
*Levi Ives,	N. Haven,	William Tully,	Middletown.
*Eli Perry,		1819.	
*Gideon Shepard,		*Samuel Rockwell,	
*Thomas Hubbard,	Potter,	*Joseph Palmer, Jr.,	Ashford.
*Samuel Woodward,			

1822.		Norman Lymin,	Warren,
*S. B. Woodward,	Wethersfield,	Mercy Burgess,	Plainfield,
*E. P. Reed,	E. Windsor,	Andrew French,	Milford.
Jehiel Williams,	N. Milford,	1832.	
*Nathan Tisdale,		Eleazer B. Dowling,	Perston,
*Samuel Carter,	Saybrook,	Heratio Dorr,	Ellington,
1823.		Lyman Parker,	Wallingford,
*Josiah Fuller,	Plainfield,	Nehemiah Perry,	Ridgefield.
*Austin Oloot,	Killingworth,	1833.	
*Silas Fuller,	Columbia,	Heratio Gridley,	Berlin,
Isaac J. Hough,		Calah H. Austin,	Middletown,
1824.		Asa M. Holt,	E. Haddam,
*Andrew Harrington,	Ashford,	Chester Hunt,	Windham,
Noah A. Lucy,	Brockfield,	Wm. T. Shelton,	Stratford,
T. P. Beers,	N. Haven,	Richard Ellis,	Quincy, Ill.
Allen Hyde,	Ellington.	1834.	
1825.		Lloyd Seeley,	Weston,
Thomas T. Wells,	Woodbury,	R. M. Fowler,	Washington,
Roswell Abernethy,	Woodbury,	Sam'l Punderson,	N. Haven,
*Gideon Beardsley,	Woodbury.	Benj. F. Stoddard,	Groton,
1827.		Hiram Holt,	Pomfret,
Isaac Goodell,	Woodbridge,	Amiah Ladd,	Tolland,
Samuel Huel,	Litchfield,	Joseph Barratt,	Middletown,
Henry Eish,	Salisbury,	Mills L. North,	Hartford.
Eleazer Hunt,	Coventry,	1835.	
*Andrew Harris,	Canterbury,	William Hyde,	Stonington,
D. T. Beineard,	N. London,	N. Shelton,	Jennison, L. I.,
James O. Pond,	Granby.	*Lyman Collin,	Bethlem,
1828.		C. Eldridge,	E. Greenwich, R. I.
*Conant Catlin,	Bethlem,	1836.	
Isaac Jennings,	Derby,	Archibald Welch,	Wethersfield,
*Luther Manning,	Scotland,	*Lucius Tyler,	Greenville,
*J. L. White, Jr.,	Bethel,	Samuel W. Gold,	Goshen,
William Robinson,	Stonington,	S. G. J. Deans,	U. S. Army,
Josiah Carewell,	Middletown,	Benajah Ticknor,	U. S. Navy.
*Henry Woodward,	Middletown.	1837.	
1819.		James Rogers,	Waterford,
Nath. L. Perkins,	N. London,	Charles Woodward,	Middletown.
Bela Farnham,	Salisbury,	1838.	
*Luther Ticknor,	Salisbury,	Ralph Carter,	Glastenbury,
Darius Huchins,	Pomfret.	*Benjamin Welch,	Norfolk.
1820.		1839.	
Samuel Hart,	N. Britain,	W. W. Minor,	N. London,
John Judson,	Newtown,	*Emery Russell,	Norwalk,
Rufus Tansy,	Killingworth,	Wells Beardsley,	Kent,
William A. Brewster,	Hartgrove,	Sturges Bulkley,	Moorse,
East Swift,	Mansfield.	Lorenzo Marcy,	Woodstock.
1831.		1840.	
*Daniel Fuller,	Rocky Hill,	Benj. H. Catlin,	Haddam,
Joseph Cornstock,	Lecton,	Asa Winter,	Woodstock.

M. Manning,	Storington,	1845.	
Orson Wood,	Somers,	S. S. Noyes,	N. Canaan;
Anson Moody,	North Haven.	S. P. Wattlew,	N. Storington;
1841.		G. H. St. John,	Gaylord's Bridge,
Eli Hall,	E. Hartford,	1846.	
Joseph P. Jewett,	Granby,	G. O. Sumner,	N. Haven;
*E. Litchfield,	Woodstock.	Chauncey Burgess,	Norwich;
1842.		G. O. Jarvis,	Portland;
Wm. C. Williams,	Manchester,	Joseph C. Dow,	Stafford.
P. Johnson,	Kingswin, R. I.,	1847.	
*Ursiah Turner,	New York City,	Daniel A. Hovey,	Killingly;
S. S. Marcy,	Cold Spring, N. Y.,	Joel Canfield,	Guilford;
1843.		Orvin C. White,	Hebron.
Alfred Kellogg,	Avon,	1848.	
Vine Smith,	Lisbon,	J. P. Converse,	Enfield.
Diana Williams,	E. Haddam,	1849.	
Cyrus Hutchins,	Pomfret,	Wm. N. Clark,	Stafford;
Bel Abbott,	Millford, Mass.	E. Skinner,	Ashford.
1844.		1850.	
Benj. Rogers,	Hartford,	Merrill W. Williams,	N. York;
George Blackman,	Westport,	Adonijah White,	Andover.
Orvin Witer,	Chaplin,		
R. A. Manwaring,	Ledyard.		

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

FOIFTY-NINTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

CONNECTICUT MEDICAL SOCIETY,

MAY, 1851.

WITH A LIST OF MEMBERS.

AND THE

ADDRESS ON THE EARLY PHYSICIANS OF CONNECTICUT,

BY GEORGE SUMNER, M. D.,

PAST PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY.

HARTFORD:

PRINTED BY CASE, TIFFANY AND COMPANY.

1851.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

RUFUS BLAKEMAN, M. D., PRESIDENT.
RICHARD WARNER, M. D., VICE PRESIDENT.
GEORGE O. SUMNER, M. D., TREASURER.
JOSIAH G. BECKWITH, M. D., SECRETARY.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Committee of Examination

RUFUS BLAKEMAN, M. D., *ex officio*,
ORSON WOOD, M. D.
P. A. JEWETT, M. D.
BENJAMIN WELCH, M. D.
P. W. ELLSWORTH, M. D.
ASHBEL WOODWARD, M. D.

Committee to nominate Physicians to the Retreat for the Insane.

ORRIN WITTER, M. D.
GEORGE DYER, M. D.
RUFUS BLAKEMAN, M. D.
WILLIAM H. COGSWELL, M. D.
J. G. BECKWITH, M. D.

Committee to nominate Professors in the Medical Institution of Yale College.

A. M. HUXLEY, M. D.
JOHNSON C. HATCH, M. D.
JOSIAH G. BECKWITH, M. D.
E. H. BISHOP, M. D.
JUSTIN HAMMOND, M. D.

The Annual Convention of the President and Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society, was held at Gilman's Saloon, in the City of Hartford, May 14, 1851.

The Convention was called to order by the President, when the certificates of the election of Fellows were presented by the Secretary, and referred to a Committee consisting of Drs. Jewett, Ellsworth, Woodward, J. Hammond, Gilbert, Burritt, Huxley and Richardson, who reported the following list of

FELLOWS.

HARTFORD COUNTY.

P. W. Ellsworth, M. D.
J. P. Erving, M. D.
W. S. Pottam, M. D.
D. W. Sturges, M. D.
P. O. Rockwell, M. D.

NEW LONDON COUNTY.

Edwin Dyer, M. D.
Abner Woodward, M. D.
A. W. Cotes, M. D.
Jesse King, M. D.
Samuel L. Maynard, M. D.

STURGEON COUNTY.

William B. Cogswell, M. D.
Justin Hammond, M. D.
Luther May, M. D.
*Samuel Hasbrouck, M. D.
Charles E. Brewster, M. D.

MIDDLETOWN COUNTY.

Alexander H. Hoag, M. D.
William H. Tyng, M. D.
G. C. H. Gilman, M. D.

NEW HAVEN COUNTY.

P. A. Jewett, M. D.
E. H. Holley, M. D.
Edw. Jew, M. D.
Alvan Yantley, M. D.
*Alanson Goodrich, M. D.

WATERBURY COUNTY.

William Wadsworth, M. D.
A. M. Huxley, M. D.
G. N. Hunt, M. D.
J. V. Hook, M. D.
Seth Bates, M. D.

WILMINGTON COUNTY.

*Sethwood E. Hoag, M. D.
Samuel Beech, M. D.
*Samuel S. Hayes, M. D.
Jesse Embury, M. D.
H. W. L. May, M. D.

YORK COUNTY.

J. H. Huxley, M. D.
C. E. Hammond, M. D.
William H. Richardson, M. D.

The President, George Sumner, M. D., then read an Address to the Convention, agreeable to a by-law adopted by the Convention of 1849, and declined being a candidate for re-election.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year, viz.

RUFUS BLAKEMAN, M. D., President.

RICHARD WARNER, M. D., Vice President.

GEORGE O. SUMNER, M. D., Treasurer.

J. G. BECKWITH, M. D., Secretary.

On motion of Dr. Bishop,

The thanks of the Convention were tendered to the late President, Dr. Sumner, for his able and interesting address, and that a copy be requested for publication with the proceedings of the Convention.

A Communication was received from Dr. Butler, Physician to the Retreat, inviting the Convention to adjourn to the Retreat to-morrow morning, and after an examination of its condition, that they finish the business of the Convention, in the Chapel of the Retreat. Invitation accepted.

A Communication was then received from the New Haven County Medical Society, which was read and referred to a Committee, consisting of Drs. Cogswell, Ellsworth, Woodward, Bishop, Gilbert, Burritt, Welch, and C. E. Hammond.

A Communication was received from Palmer & Co. in reference to an artificial limb of their manufacture, which they wished to exhibit to the Convention, and obtain an expression of their views in relation to its adaptation to the relief of the public, and as a specimen of surgical apparatus.

Leave granted at any time during the session of the Convention.

The Report of the Treasurer was then read by the Secretary, the Treasurer being prevented by ill health from attending the Convention, and also from the same cause declining a re-election.

Report accepted, and referred to an Auditing Committee, consisting of Drs. Talcott, Erving, King, Hutchins, Tremain, Beach, Wenden and Manning.

Committee on Deliberations were then appointed, consisting of Drs. Jewett, Dyar, Bonley, Gilbert, Erving, Burritt, Pease and C. E. Hammond.

A verbal Report was then made by Dr. Knight, Chairman of the Committee appointed to take into consideration the changes, if any

were necessary, in the Constitution and By-laws of the Connecticut Medical Society.

Report stated that the Committee had not been called together, but communications had been addressed by the Chairman to the several Counties, requesting their action, and an expression of their views and wishes in relation to any alteration in said Constitution and By-laws, and if any alterations were deemed advisable, requesting that they might be suggested through him to the Convention; that only a portion of the State had been heard from, about one-half, and that there was no uniformity in the alterations suggested by these Counties. New London County had suggested a mass meeting of the Members of the Society. Hartford, New Haven and Fairfield Counties, had suggested a change in the ratio of representation, which seemed so inequitable within certain limits, and suggested that if such an alteration was made, and the representation increased, the compensation for attendance upon the Convention, and the travel from home as a consequence necessarily be reduced; and suggested also double as the compensation for attendance, and six cents per mile for the travel fee. Also that no Member be allowed to vote in County Meeting, until his dues were paid.

These were the principal alterations suggested by the Chairman of the Committee.

His Report was accepted, and the Committee discharged.

It was moved by Dr. Jercot, that the Report be the order of the day for 4 o'clock, P. M. of this day. Lost.

It was moved by Dr. Hatch, that the subject be indefinitely postponed. Lost.

Dr. Knight was then requested to return to writing the several alterations he had suggested, and bring them before the Convention in the afternoon.

The Convention then adjourned to 4 o'clock, P. M.

Four o'clock, P. M.

Society met pursuant to adjournment.

The Convention came to order, and Dr. Knight presented the following resolutions; the first being an alteration of the Charter.

Resolved, That application be made to the General Assembly of the State, for an alteration of the Charter of this Society, so

" That the Members of each County may appoint a number of Fellows in the proportion of one Fellow to every eight members re-

holding in such County, who shall have paid all taxes which have been duly laid by the Society, or who shall have been legally exempted from such payment; provided that no County Society shall be entitled to more than eight nor less than four members."

Resolved, That the following be passed as a By-Law of the Society.

"Every Member of this Society shall annually contribute to its funds the sum assessed in Convention, and pay the same to the Clerk of the County in which he resides, on or before the succeeding Annual Meeting of said County, and that no tax paying Member shall be eligible to any office, nor permitted to vote, until he shall have made such payment."

Resolved, - That hereafter the President and Fellows shall receive one dollar for attendance in Convention, and six cents for each mile of the distance from their place of residence to the place of holding the Convention."

The Report accepted and taken up in Committee of the whole for consideration.

Dr. Bishop offered the following, as an amendment on the alteration in the Charter.

Resolved, That each County may appoint one Fellow to every six Members, provided that no County shall be entitled to more than ten nor less than six members.

Dr. Cogswell offered the following amendment to the amendment of Dr. Bishop.

Resolved, That no County shall be entitled to any representation, until they have paid ninety-five per cent of all taxes charged against them. Passed.

Dr. Knight then moved that the amendment to the By-Laws be laid upon the table.

The whole subject was then indefinitely postponed.

In consequence of a resolution adopted by the Fairfield County Medical Society, and presented to this Convention, by Dr. Beach, the Clerk of said Society, the following persons were dismissed from the Society, *namely* -

Lloyd Smith, Cyrenius H. Booth, E. Irvin, George Judson, Charles Gorham, Nehemiah Perry, John Goulding, J. Jauncey and Sylvester Mead.

Meeting of Fairfield Association - 1848

On motion of Dr. Warden,

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to examine the artificial limb of Dr. Palmer, and the identical straps presented for examination by the Messrs. Kelloggs, and report to the Convention their opinion of the same.

Drs. Jewett, Cogswell and Warden, appointed said Committee.

The Report of the Committee of Examination was then received from Orson Wood, M. D., who was appointed to report their proceedings to the Convention, was read, by the Secretary, and ordered to be printed with the proceedings of the Convention. (It will be found in the Appendix marked A.)

The proceedings of the New Haven County Medical Society relating to a delinquent member, were presented, and it was voted that the action of the New Haven County Society in the expulsion of Dr. W. W. Rollman, be confirmed by this Convention.

Drs. Ives, Hatch and Bishop, were appointed a Committee to nominate delegates to the American Medical Association, to be held on the first Tuesday in May, 1852.

Drs. Talbot, Sanford, Coats, J. Hammond, Hough, Richards, Russell and Manning, were appointed a Committee to nominate Gratuitous Students for the vacancies which exist in the several counties.

Drs. Beach, W. S. Pierson, Dyer, Gilbert, Bishop, Burritt, Huxley, and Wm. H. Richardson, were appointed a Committee on Honorary Degrees and Honorary Membership. The Committee appointed to report Delegates to attend the next Annual National Convention, reported the names of Drs. George Sumner, P. J. Judson, Nathan B. Ives, and William H. Cogswell.

Report accepted, and they were accordingly appointed.

Dr. Jewett, from the Committee on Dr. Palmer's Artificial Limb, reported "That they found by reference to the proceedings of the Convention of 1849, that said limb had been presented to the Convention, and the subject had been taken up, and a report had been made in favor of said limb. The Committee believed that a report so recent should be satisfactory to Dr. Palmer, and the Committee asked to be discharged from further consideration of this part of their appointment.

Report accepted, and the Committee were accordingly discharged.

The Convention then, on motion, proceeded to fill the vacancies in the Standing Committees, when on balloting, it was found that Ashbel Woodward, M. D. and Pinckney W. Ellsworth, M. D. were elected to fill the vacancies in the Committee of Examination.

William H. Cogswell, M. D. and J. G. Berckwith, M. D. to fill the vacancies in the Committee to nominate Physicians to the Retreat for the Insane, and George Dyce, M. D. to fill the vacancy in said Committee by the recent death of William Winter, M. D.

E. Hughes Bishop, M. D. and Justin H. Harwood, M. D. to fill the vacancies in the Committee to nominate Professors of the Medical Institution of Yale College, and A. M. Huxley, M. D. to fill the vacancy in said Committee by the death of Norman Lyman, M. D.

The Convention then adjourned to meet at eight o'clock on Thursday.

Thursday, eight o'clock.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment, at Gilman's Hall, when in compliance with the invitation of Dr. Butler, accepted by the Convention, they adjourned to the Retreat for the Insane.

Nine o'clock, A. M. at the Chapel of the Retreat.

The Convention came together, when Dr. Talbot, from the Committee on the Treasurer's Report, stated that they had examined the same, and found it correct.

Report accepted, and Committee discharged.

Abstract of Treasurer's Report.—Financial Summary.

Cash in Treasury,	\$187.92½
Due from Clerks, good and bad,	\$1,370.34½

The following exhibits the indebtedness to the Society, arranged by counties, and in the opposite column the outstanding debentures issued to each county,—

	Cross.	May Debentures.
Hartford county,	\$298.00	\$1.37½
New Haven county,	240.18	8.37½
New London county,	242.53	28.25
Litchfield county,	154.32	93.50
Fairfield county,	248.87½	67.25
Windham county,	46.78½	69.50
Middlesex county,	100.63	9.25
Tolland county,	37.42½	7.00
	<u>\$1,370.24½</u>	<u>\$315.00</u>
Deduct one-third of this for bad debts, abatements, commissions, &c.		<u>456.78</u>
Shows net dues to be		<u>913.56½</u>
		<u>\$1,101.49</u>
The Society owes debenture bills as above,	\$315.00	
To J. B. Whitcomb,	4.83	
	<u>\$319.83</u>	
Balance in favor of Society,	781.66	
	<u>\$1,101.49</u>	
Of the outstanding debentures,		
Amount issued in May last,	\$208.37½	
Redeemed during the year by		
clerks,	\$172.12½	
Treasurer,	16.25	
Excess of amount issued,	20.00	
	<u>\$208.37½</u>	

On motion of Dr. Beckwith,

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention be tendered to Dr. Virgil M. Dow, late Treasurer of the Connecticut Medical Society, for the very able and faithful manner with which he has for ten years performed the arduous duties of Treasurer of the Society, evident from the great improvement in its financial condition,* and that a copy of this resolution be tendered him by the Secretary, as an ex-

* See Appendix B.

desire of the just appreciation in which they regard the important services rendered by him to the Society.

Passed unanimously.

Dr. Talcott, Chairman of the Committee on Gratuities Students, reported that the following gentlemen were recommended from the following counties, viz.

Hartford county,	Alvan P. Tickner.
New Haven county,	John S. Moody.
Fairfield county,	Nathaniel Freeman.
Litchfield county,	George Judson.

And the vacancies in New London, Windham, Middlesex and Tolland counties were filled with the following names.

G. H. Smith, John Davis, R. P. Lyon, and George P. Parsons.

Dr. Talcott offered the following resolutions.

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to report to the next annual Convention, what improvements have been made during the last fifty years, in Materia Medica, and in Medicine and Surgery.

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to report to the Convention in 1862, on such parts of Medical Ethics as may be thought proper to present to the Connecticut Medical Society.

Resolutions adopted, and the following Committees appointed.

On Materia Medica.

Eli Ives, M. D., Charles Woodward, M. D., D. A. Tyler, M. D.

On Surgery.

P. A. Jewett, M. D., P. W. Ellsworth, M. D., W. H. Cogswell, M. D.

On Practice of Medicine.

George Sumner, M. D., Worthington Hooker, M. D., Nathan B. Ives, M. D.

On Medical Ethics.

Archibald Welch, M. D., J. G. Beckwith, M. D., Richard Warner, M. D.

Drs. Cogswell, Erwin and Talcott, were appointed a Committee to report a Dissertation for the next Convention.

Voted, That the Chairman of the Committee on Constitutional Amendments, be paid the regular allowance for attendance on the Convention, with mileage.

The Committee on Debentures made a report, which was read, accepted, and ordered to be paid.

Drs. Wilson, Jewett and Ellsworth, were appointed a Committee to confer with a Committee of the Legislature, on the subject of Registration and other matters connected with the interests of the profession.

Dr. Cogswell made a report on the matters referred to the Committee of which he was Chairman, on the subject of using and vending nostrums, and a more summary way of dissolving the connection between the Medical Society with those of its members who may adopt Homoeopathy, Hydropathy, or any of the exclusive systems of the day, recommending the attention of the County Societies to the 11th Article of the By-Laws in reference to the former, and an addition to the By-Laws in reference to the latter.

Report accepted and Committee discharged.

The following Recommendation and Resolution were adopted.

That we recommend to each County Medical Society to examine into the sale of Patent Medicines, by members of the Society, and require the enforcement of the By-Law on the subject, as said practice is incompatible with honorable standing in the profession.

The following was adopted as an addition to the By-Laws of the Society.

"Each County meeting shall have the power to examine the case and immediately expel any member notoriously in the practice of Homoeopathy, Hydropathy, or any other form of quackery, without any formal trial, the same to be ratified by the succeeding Convention, any By-Law to the contrary notwithstanding."

Pliny A. Jewett, M. D. was appointed Dissertator for 1852.

Henry D. Bulkley, M. D. of the city of New York, was elected an honorary member of the Connecticut Medical Society.

Voted, That a tax of one dollar and fifty cents be laid upon the members of the Society, payable on and after the first day of June next.

Dr. Cogswell offered the following Resolution, which was unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That the President and Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society assembled, believing that the cause of humanity demands further provision for the comfort and well-being of the Insane Poor of this State, do most earnestly but respectfully recommend to the Hon. General Assembly of this State, now in session, to make liberal appropriations to the Retreat for the Insane, to be extended to such only, as are unable by reason of indigence, to secure the benefits of

proper medical treatment; and that a Committee be appointed to present the Resolution to the Legislature.

On motion of Dr. Jewett,

Resolved, That the Convention respectfully recommend to the Legislature an appropriation for the benefit of the Charity Patients in the General Hospital of Connecticut.

The above Resolution was also adopted, and were both referred to the same Committee, consisting of Drs. William W. Welch, Allyn, M. Hangerford, and E. K. Hunt.

There being no further business before the Convention, a vote of thanks was unanimously tendered to Dr. Butler for the use of the rooms for the sitting of the Convention.

The Convention then adjourned *sine die*.

Attest, JOSIAH G. BECKWITH, *Secretary*.

MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

*FELIX PASCALE,	New York.
JAMES JACKSON,	Boston, Mass.
JOHN C. WARREN,	Boston, Mass.
*SAMUEL L. MITCHELL,	New York.
*DAVID HUSACK,	New York.
*WRIGHT HUNT,	New York.
BENJAMIN SHELLMAN,	New Haven.
*GEORGE McCLELLAN,	Philadelphia, Pa.
*JOHN MARSH,	Providence, R. I.
*CHARLES ELMERIDGE,	East Greenwich, R. I.
THEODORE ROBERTSON BECK,	Albany, N. Y.
*JAMES THACHER,	Plymouth, Mass.
EDWARD DELAFIELD,	New York.
JOHN DELAMATER,	Cherry Hill, N. J.
*WILLIAM P. DEWEES,	Philadelphia, Pa.
*JOSEPH WHITE,	Cherry Valley, N. Y.
JACOB EDGELOW,	Boston, Mass.
WALTER CHANNING,	Boston, Mass.
*PHILIP SING PHYSIC,	Philadelphia, Pa.
*LEWIS DEERMAN,	U. S. Navy.
DANIEL DEANE,	Camden, Ohio.
HENRY MITCHELL,	Norwich, N. Y.
NATHAN EYNO SMITH,	Baltimore, Md.
VALENTINE MOTT,	New York.
*SAMUEL WHITE,	Hudson, N. Y.
REUBEN D. MUSSETT,	Cincinnati, Ohio.
WILLIAM TULLY,	New Haven.
RICHMOND BROWNELL,	Providence, R. I.
WILLIAM BEAUMONT,	St. Louis, Mo.
SAMUEL HENRY JACKSON,	Charleston, S. C.
*SAMUEL R. WOODWARD,	Nashua, N. H.
*JOHN STEARNS,	New York.
STEPHEN W. WILLIAMS,	Dorchester, Mass.
*HENRY GREEN,	Albany, N. Y.
*GEORGE FROST,	Springfield, Mass.
WILLARD PARKER,	New York.
BENJAMIN TICKNOR,	U. S. Navy.
ALGER HATCH,	Albany, N. Y.
*AMOS TWITCHELL,	Lowell, N. H.
CHARLES A. LEE,	New York.
DAVID S. C. R. SMITH,	Providence, R. I.
JAMES M. SMITH,	Springfield, Mass.
HENRY D. DULLEY,	New York.

ORDINARY MEMBERS.

The names of those Members who are exempt from taxation by age, are in italics; the names of those who have been Presidents of the Society, are in capitals.

BARTFORD COUNTY.

H. C. GILLETTE, M. D., *Chairman.*

J. C. JARVIS, H. B., *Clerk.*

HARRIS, GEORGE KENNEDY,
Henry Holmes, Samuel E. Brewster,
George B. Hawley, Gordon W. Russell,
Ernest Cressy, P. W. Edgeworth,
Benjamin Rogers, E. K. Hart, John
S. Bailey, B. A. Gould, J. C. Jackson,
A. W. Torrey, Thomas Miner,
M. W. Wilson, ARTHUR L. L.
WELCH, Ferdinand Ischewski, Hilary
Griffin.

West Bartford, Edward Stone.

Acres, Alfred Kellogg.

Barnes, E. Dunsbury, Jr.

*New Britain, Samuel Hart, Lucius
Woodruff, E. D. Babcock, P. C.
Rockwell.*

Barnstable, John F. Wells.

*Barnes, Joseph W. Camp, Israel L.
Graham.*

Deerfield, William Elton, M.

*Cayes, Reverend Emma, Thomas G.
Hess.*

*Colburnville, Russell M. Tiffany, H. B.
Fryman.*

*East Hartford, Eli Hall, Seth L.
Child, Cassius M. Brewster.*

East Windsor, Hiram Wilson.

East Andover, Nelson L. Fox.

Hartford Point, Joseph Diamond.

Greenwich, J. P. Dorrance, A. L. Spalding.

*Thompsonville, Stephen G. Bailey, J.
Gentry Dimes.*

*Valeriantown, Asahel Thompson, E. W.
Armington, Clatsney Barnes.*

Plainsville, O. A. Hardy.

Hartwick, William H. Stone.

*Grahamsville, Hatch, Charles, Charles
Stone.*

*Kelly, Minchburgh, Russell Hawley,
Laurie J. Andrus, Henry Wilbur.*

Eastover, Helen Manning.

Greenville, Aaron Van, Jos. C. Arnold.

North Windy, E. F. Kravie.

East Windy, Charles Hendon.

West Windy, James D. Wilson.

Mayntown, W. C. Williams, W. Smith.

York Hill, Stephen Bellamy.

Stanton, Richard A. Wilson.

*Thompsonville, Geo. W. Russell, Charles
M. Loring.*

*Thompsonville, John E. Barnes, —
Dymond.*

*North Windsor, Henry C. Gentry,
Silvery Backwell, William Wood.*

*Springville, Joseph L. Brook, Samuel B.
Low, Aaron Rising.*

*Watersbury, E. F. French, J. S.
Wright.*

*Windsor, William S. Pierce, Thomas
Hall, Graham Lee.*

*Wyndham Falls, Samuel W. Skinner,
Pyronville, Oliver B. Gentry.*

NEW HAVEN COUNTY.

JONATHAN KNIGHT, M. D., Chairman.

DAVID A. TYLER, M. D., Clerk.

NEW HAVEN, EN JOI, T. P. Berr,
Jonathan Knight, Samuel Pender-
son, V. M. Dow, A. S. Munson,
Charles Hooker, H. B. Parker, Na-
thaniel B. Ives, E. H. Bishop, L. D.
Scriba, A. C. Robinson, L. A. Thome-
son, Levi Ives, Harry A. Jorrett, D. L.
Duggett, George O. Sennett, D. A.
Tyler, Henry Benson, E. A. Park,
N. W. Taylor, J. A. Moody, W. J.
Whiting, S. G. Hubbard, H. W. E.
Matthews.
WATERBURY, Samuel Lloyd.
FARMINGTON, C. S. Thompson, J. H.
Dewar, W. M. White, Lyman Par-
ker.
BERNARD, Amos C. Woodward.
HARTFORD, Wm. Hughley L. Lay.
GROTON, A. J. Duggs, Nehemiah
Perkins.
DURRY, S. T. Cagin.
JANESVILLE, Samuel P. Church.
BIRMINGHAM, Arthur Boardley, T.
Dutton.
HARTFORDVILLE, Almon Stoddard,
Stephen O. Johnson, Joshua Ken-
dall, Thomas Stoddard.
EAST HARTFORD, Sile Rowden.

GROTON, Joel Casfield, Almon Tal-
bot.
HARTFORD, Reynolds Webb.
HARTFORD, Gardner Barker.
WEST HARTFORD, E. H. Cullen, Edward
W. Hack.
FARMINGTON, C. H. McCarty.
MIDDLETOWN.
HARTFORD, Andrew French, Hall Allen,
L. N. Goodday.
KANSASVILLE, J. D. Meigs, Timothy
Laughlin.
NORTH HARTFORD, Sheldon Boardley.
NORTH HAVEN, C. H. Foster.
GROTON, John Loomis.
BIRMINGHAM, A. B. Smith.
SOUTH BERNARD, N. C. Sullivan.
WATERBURY, E. H. Harrison, S. W.
Clark.
WATERBURY, Joseph Parker, Daniel
Porter, Jr., M. C. Leavensworth, G.
L. Plath, John Brown, George K.
Perkins, M. H. Perkins, George
Bulfinch.
WATERBURY, Anna Goodell, Andrew
Calkins.
WATERBURY, Henry Dwyer.

NEW LONDON COUNTY.

DYER T. BRAINARD, M. D., Chairman.

SARA SAGIN, M. D., Clerk.

NEW LONDON, Dyer T. Brainard, Na-
thaniel S. Perkins, James Rogers,
Isaac O. Porter, Wm. W. Hunt,
James Rogers, Seth Smith, C. H.
Cooms, D. P. Francis, Archibald T.
Douglas, Albert Dyer, Albert Hol-
man, Robert A. Mowbray, Eliza-
b. Hewitt.
NORWICH, Richard P. Tracy, Wm.
Hughes Hooker, Elijah Dyer, Jr., Eli-
sha Pracey, Benjamin T. Smith,
Jonathan W. Dwyer, B. P. Under-
hill, Adlai B. Hark, John D. Ford, Jo-
seph King, Edwin Dwyer, Benja-
min K. Dwyer, John P. Foster, Almon
Foster, Homer Thurston.
ROCKY, Samuel Johnson.
COCHECTON, Karl W. Parsons,
Frederick Morgan.
LOVE LANE, John L. Smith, Austin
F. Perkins.
FRANCIS, Amos Woodhead.
GROTON.
AMID CITY, Almon Foster.

GROTON, Joseph Dwyer.
PORTFOLIO, John O. Myers, Elias F.
Cooms.
LANSING, Joseph Comstock, Eustace G.
Good, Richard P. Green.
LANSING.
GOLF PERRY, Rufus W. Matthews.
LANSING, Faye Smith.
LANSING, Richard Noyes, John Noyes,
Nathaniel Lys, Wm. W. J. Warren.
MIDDLETOWN, Ephraim Pillsbury, Samuel
E. Maynard.
HARTFORDVILLE, Benjamin E. Gay, John C.
Foster.
SOUTH HARTFORD, Thomas P. Wal-
ton, Almon Gay.
FARMINGTON, Avery Dwyer, Elmer E.
Dwyer.
PORTFOLIO, H. W. Coom.
SAGIN.
STONINGTON, Wm. Hyde, George E.
Fisher, Wm. Hyde, Jr.
MYER, Moses Manning.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY.

E. MIDDLEBROOK, M. D., Chairman.

SAMUEL BEACH, M. D., Clerk.

FAIRBANKS, Jeremiah T. Denton, S. P.
V. K. Tim Bessick.
GROSFELD, Elias Blakeman.
NORTHGATE, James Harwood.
KELSOBROOK, Samuel Deane, H. H.
Nash, William L. Weston, Frederick
J. Jackson, L. W. Hamer, Mrs. Nash.
HUNTINGTON, Noah A. Lacey, A. L.
Williams.
DAVEY, E. B. Bolyard, E. P. Doy-
son.
BETH, H. N. Bennett, J. S. Anderson.
DIXON, Warren Farnham.
KASTON, James Roberts.

HUNTINGTON, James H. Shelton.
MORSE, Salmon H. Hall.
NEW CANAAN, Samuel S. Noyes, Lewis
Richards.
NEWFANE, John A. McLean, Levi Grog-
off.
SANDWICH, Dana W. Norrump.
STANFORD, Chauncey Ayers, N. D.
Haight.
STANFORD, William T. Shelton.
TOWNSEND, **ELIAS MIDDLE-
BROOK**, George Hoyt.
WATERBURY, George Blackwell.

HINSDALE COUNTY.

ORREN WITTER, M. D., Chairman.

JAMES B. WATSON, M. D., Clerk.

BROOKLYN, James H. Whitcomb, Dan-
iel M. Baker, William Woodbridge.
ANDOVER, John H. Simmons.
CANTON, Elijah Baldwin, Joseph
Palmer.
CHARTER, Orrin Water.
HAMMOND, Dyer Hughes.
KELSOBROOK, James Harwood.
North Killingly, Fyoster H. Pockham.
South Killingly, Daniel A. Hovey.
West Killingly, David E. Hall, Samuel
Hathorn, Stephen C. Griggs.
WILKINSON, Henry W. Bough,
Thomas W. Perry.
DEPUE, Charles H. Parker.
FLORHAM, William H. Cogswell.

FLORHAM, Charles P. D., Mary Burgess,
Edw. Baldwin, Jr., Hanson Burgess.
PORTER, Maria Hall, Lewis Wil-
kins.
POTSDAM, Nathan B. Tice.
TOWNSEND, Samuel Bryant.
VANDERBILT, Harney Campfield.
WILKINSON, Chester West, Dr. Will C.
Sutton.
WILKINSON, John Hall, Jr.
WILKINSON, Nelson B. Boushey.
WILKINSON, North, Ann Wiley.
South Wilkinton, Lemuel Hovey.
West Wilkinton, Milton Bradford,
Charles H. Rogers.
WILKINSON, Henry Gray.

LITCHFIELD COUNTY.

RALPH DEMING, M. D., Chairman.

JOSIAH BARNES, M. D., Clerk.

LEICESTER, **WILLIAM DUFFE**.
ARNOLD, Bart, J. G. Robinson, George
Seymour, D. E. Boscawick, Chas. Tait.
South Farms, Garry H. Miner.
BARNSTABLE, F. B. Graham.

BETHEL, J. G. Howell.
DANFORTH, Thomas Jackson.
CANAAN, A. A. Wright, George Adams,
Thomas H. Smith.
South Farms, John A. Olsen.

CORNWALL, BRADY B. North.
 HILL CORNWALL, Samuel W. Gold, I. R.
 Smith.
 North Cornwall.
 COLLEBROOK, Nelly Pease.
 Gaylord Bridge, Gustaf H. St. John.
 GORHAM, A. M. Hasky.
 HARTWICK.
 KANE, Wm. Beechley, Johnson C.
 Hatch, Eliza Osborn.
 NEW HARTFORD, Chester.
 New Hartwick, Abel Williams, Wm.
 B. Lucy.
 NORFOLK, William W. Welch, E. D.
 Hughes.
 PLYMOUTH, Samuel T. Salisbury.
 Plymouth Hollow, William Woodruff.
 ROXBURY, Myron Lewis.

SALISBURY, O. Plank, Wal. Woodson.
 Salisbury, Benjamin Welch, Jr., John
 H. Welch.
 SHARON, Ralph Denning, Chas. W.
 Reed.
 WILMONTVILLE, Ernest Deane, W. E.
 Whiting, J. W. Phelps.
 WARREN, O. Brown.
 WOODFORD, Mary Pease.
 WYOMING, R. M. Fowler.
 NEW PONTIAC, Selby H. Lyman, Ed-
 ward P. Lyman.
 WEST WINDSOR, James Welch, H. G.
 Westlake, John L. Wakefield.
 WINDSOR, David Merwin, Charles
 H. Webb.
 TROYVILLE.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY.

RUFUS TURNER, M. D., Chairman.

G. C. H. GILBERT, M. D., Clerk.

ALBANY, Richard Warner, Joseph
 Burnett, Charles Woodward, William
 B. Casey, David Harrison, Franklin
 Woodruff.
 CANTON, Francis G. Edgema.
 Middle Hudson, A. B. Worthington.
 CANTON, S. W. Turner.
 CANTON, Dennis H. Hubbard.
 DUNELM, Benjamin M. Foster.
 EAST HADDAM, Am. M. Webb, Datus
 Williams, Edwin S. Nye.

HADDAM, Ed. Harrison.
 HADDAM, William H. Townsend.
 HADDAM, Rufus Turner.
 FORTMAN, George O. Jarvis, Stephen
 A. Fiske, O. C. H. Gilbert.
 HADDAM, Am. B. King.
 HADDAM, Alexander H. Hough, Frederick
 W. Shepard.
 HADDAM, Rufus Fiske.
 HADDAM, Harvey Way.

TOLLAND COUNTY.

ORSON WOOD, M. D., Chairman.

GILBERT H. PATTON, M. D., Clerk.

TOLLAND, Alfred Ladd, Oliver K.
 Tolland, Gilbert H. Patton.
 ANDOVER, Adolph White.
 BOLTON, Charles F. Sawyer.
 CANTON, Hanson Melanck.
 CANTON, North, Elmer Hunt.
 So. CANTON, T. Dwyer, H. M. Booth.
 ELLINGTON, Allen Apple, Hattie Drew,
 J. H. Manning.
 HADDAM, JOHN S. PETER, Otto C.
 White, Eliza A. Woodruff.
 HADDAM, North, Norman Brigham,
 W. H. Richardson.

South Haddam, Earl Noy.
 HADDAM, Owen Wood, Thomas E.
 Harrison.
 HADDAM, Edith, William N. Clark,
 Elmer S. Beebe.
 HADDAM, Prof. Joshua C. Holger.
 HADDAM, Spring, Henry M. Knight.
 HADDAM, E. Lindsey, S. F. Lindsey.
 HADDAM, Allen Hadden.
 HADDAM, Benjamin M. Cowgill, E.
 C. Haddam.
 HADDAM, Francis L. Dickinson.

SUMMARY OF GRANTARY MEMBERS FOR 1890, WITH THE DEATHS FOR 1890.

	TALENTS.	SIX TALENTS.	TOTAL.	DEATHS.
Hartford County,	72	7	83	0
New Haven County,	63	13	77	0
New London County,	44	14	58	0
Litchfield County,	42	0	42	1
Windham County,	31	2	33	1
Fairfield County,	20	2	22	0
Middlesex County,	25	1	26	0
Tolland County,	12	1	13	1
—	—	—	—	—
Total,	239	40	279	2

NOTE. Former Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society, not permanent members of the Annual Convention, having the privilege of attending all meetings, and performing all the duties of attending members, except that of casting their votes. And all members of the Society are invited, by the Apptees, to be present at all meetings of the Convention, and preside if the desired on the first day of the session.

DEATHS OF MEMBERS DURING THE YEAR ENDING APRIL 1, 1891, WITH THE AGE AND DISEASE SO FAR AS ASCERTAINED.

Hartford County, no deaths reported.
 New Haven County, Noah Stone, age 87. Affection of the Heart.
 J. T. Hawkins, Fever, age 14.
 New London County, Archibald Myers, Apoplexy, age 54.
 Chas. W. Sharps, Affection of the Heart, age 30.
 Litchfield County, James Lewis, Consumption, age 31.
 Windham County, Dr. Wm. Wm. Deane of Kidney, age 45.
 Fairfield County, no deaths reported.
 Middlesex County, " " "
 Tolland County, Oving Burt, Typhoid Fever, age 32.

DUTIES OF CLERKS.

To attend County Meetings.
 To maintain the present and the County Meetings.
 To collect the taxes and pay the same to the Treasury.
 To transmit to the Secretary a list of the absent Fellows, and the persons recommended as a condition for a permanent source of income, immediately after the County Meetings, for presentation.

To make certificates of Fellowship, to be transmitted to the Secretary, on or before the first day of the Convention.

To transmit duplicate lists of the Members of the Society, to the Secretary and Treasurer, on or before the first day of the Convention, on the penalty of five dollars for each neglect.

To refer to the Treasurer the names of delinquent Members of the Society.

To report to the Secretary of the State Convention, on the first day of its session, the names, ages, and residences of the Members of this Society, who may have died during the year preceding the 1st of April in each year, in their several County Societies.

RULES OF ORDER.

1. Organization.
2. Certificate of Membership presented and read by Secretary.
3. Committee on the election of Fellows.
4. Address of President.
5. Election of Officers for ensuing year.
6. Unfinished business of previous year disposed of.
7. Reception and reference, without debate, of Communications, Resolves, &c., from the several Counties, and Members of the Convention.
8. Reading Treasurer's Report.
9. Committee to audit the same.
10. Committee on Delinquents.
11. Standing Committees appointed.
12. Committee to nominate Delegates to National Convention.
13. Committee on Candidates for graduation course of Lecturers.
14. Committee on Honorary Degrees and Honorary Memberships.
15. Committee to nominate Discretaries.
16. Dissolution.
17. Reports of Committees appointed on County Communications, Resolves, &c.
18. Reports of Standing Committees.
19. Reports of Committees in the order in which business was brought forward in Convention.
20. Miscellaneous business.

The Members of the Society, in the several Counties, are requested to furnish the Clerks at the Annual Meeting, with a list of the Members of the Society previous to 1869; and the Clerks are kindly requested to forward these lists to the Secretary of the Connecticut Medical Society, for future use.

DISSERTATIONS READ IN CONVENTIONS.

1794. Dr. S. H. P. Lee, on Attributed Bilious Fever.
 1794. Dr. Gideon Shepherd, on the Properties of Opium.
 1795. Dr. F. P. Oviere, on the Preparations of Antimony.
 1795. Dr. Thaddeus Betts, on the different species of Colic.
 1796. Dr. F. P. Oviere, on the Contagion of Yellow Fever.
 1796. Dr. S. H. P. Lee, on Cynanche Tonsillaris.
 1796. Dr. Lewis Collins, on the most eligible mode of increasing Medical Knowledge in this State.
 1796. Dr. Gideon Shepherd, on the same subject.
 1798. Dr. Samuel Hopkins, case of Bilious Concretion.
 1798. Dr. Jared Potter, "An Essay."
 1799. Dr. Thaddeus Clark, a Dissertation.
 1800. Dr. Nathaniel Dwight, on Lunacy.
 1804. Dr. Samuel Willard, on the Sudford Mineral Waters.
 1817. Dr. W. R. Fowler, on the deleterious effects of Ardent Spirits.
 1818. Dr. William Buel, on Ergot.
 1820. Dr. Thomas Miner, on Typhus Fever.
 1821. Dr. Samuel Rockwell, on Uterine Hemorrhage.
 1822. Dr. William Tully, on the Yellow Fever at Middletown.
 1823. Dr. Dyer T. Brainerd.
 1827. Dr. Samuel B. Woodward, on the Biography of the Physicians of the State.
 1829. Dr. George Shattner, on Extra-uterine Conception.
 1830. Dr. Charles Hooker, on Diseases of the Ear.
 1835. Dr. Benjamin Welch, Jr., on the Vitality of the Blood.
 1836. Dr. E. H. Bishop, "Influence of Moral Emotions on Disease."
 1837. Dr. Archibald Welch, on Scarlet Fever.
 1838. Dr. Isaac G. Porter, on the disease commonly denominated Spinal Irritation.
 1838. Dr. Henry Bronson, on the Mental qualifications necessary to a Physician.
 1840. Dr. Richard Warner, on the advantages of prompt and efficient practice in Acute Diseases.
 1841. Dr. Amariah Brigham, on Insanity as a subject of Medical Jurisprudence.
 1842. Dr. Charles Woodward, on Uterine Irritation.
 1843. Dr. Pinckney W. Ellsworth, on Phlebotomy.

1844. Dr. Washington Hooker, on the respect due to the Medical Profession, and the reasons that it is not awarded by the community.
1845. Dr. Nathan B. Ives, on *Laryngismus Stridulus*.
1846. Dr. Theodore Sill, Observations on Typhus Fever.
1847. Dr. E. K. Hunt, on the Importance of a Medical Organization, and the advantages resulting from it.
1848. Dr. B. P. Barker, Remarks on some forms of disease of the Cervix Uteri.
1849. Dr. Alvan Talcott, on Hygiene.
1850. Dr. Johnson C. Hatch, on Medical Jurisprudence.
1851. Dr. George Sanctor, on the early Physicians of Connecticut.

APPENDIX A.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXAMINATION.

The second examination of candidates in the Medical Department of Yale College, was held on Wednesday, January 11, 1821; all the members of the board of examination were present, except Hiram Hall, M. D.

The degree of Doctor in Medicine was conferred by President Woolsey on eleven candidates, including two previously examined, viz.

1. Warren Parker Beach, Meriden, in "Physiologia."
2. George Benedict, E. A., Danbury, in "Physiologia."
3. Orlando Brown, Groton, in "Kinesika."
4. David Pittman Burr, Danbury, in "Physiologia."
5. Samuel Collier, Litchfield, in "Anatomia."
6. Henry Eddy, M. A., Goshen, in "Physiologia."
7. Francis Collet Glavin, New Haven, in "Anatomia."
8. Jonathan Jones Howard, Richmond, Vt., in "Ophthalmia."
9. Robert Hubbard, Middletown, in "Physiologia."
10. Matthew Turner Newlin, Colchester, in "Virus Haemorrhagiae."
11. William Smith, Chaplin, in "Physiologia."

The annual address to the Medical Class was given by Richard Watson, M. D., of Middlebury. It was pertinent to the occasion, and was listened to attentively with much interest, by the candidates, and thirty the very respectable audience of citizens of both sexes, who were in attendance during its delivery. It was remarked of Dr. Watson, that he does not speak, except when he has something to say.

Almon Tabbutt, M. D., of Goshen, and Rufus W. Webb, M. D., of Salisbury, were appointed to give the annual addresses in 1822 and 1823.

Conrad Wood, of Danvers, was appointed to report the proceedings of the Board to the President and Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society.

Adjourned to again meet on the fourth Wednesday of March, 1821.

The Committee would remark here, that they were highly pleased with the qualifications manifested by all the candidates, in the thorough examination they were subjected to, in all the various branches of medicine taught in this Institution. They gave good evidence that they had not mispent the time allotted to them for medical instruction—like humble imitators, and the able teachers with whom instructions they have been favored. They gave evidence that they had reflected on, and prepared themselves for the highly responsible duties they are assuming to occupy in the community—that responsibility which on them will rest, when their friends, on beds of sickness laid, shall look up to them for help—that responsibility which shall bring them to be active and vigilant, by day and by night, to see that nothing be left undone, nor too much done, to more life. Better would it be for the public, if all those who enter the

field of practical medicine were thus well prepared. Hence if the whole community were as well protected, from the officiousness of ignorant pretenders in the practice of medicine, as is the very best city of the United States.

By order of the Convention,

ORSON WOOD, Chairman.

AGENDA.—Since writing the above report, I have received from Professor Barker, a notice of the proceedings at the adjourned meeting of the Board of Examiners, held on the fourth Wednesday of March, 1851. There were present, on the part of the Connecticut Medical Society, Alvan Talcott, M. D. and Philip A. Jewett, M. D.; and on the part of Yale College, Professors Free, Knight, Sears, Barker and Benson.

The degree of Doctor in Medicine was recommended by the Board, and conferred by President Woolsey, on Benjamin Franklin Bassett, B. A. of New York. Dissertation on "Infancy."

A Diploma was granted by the President of the Connecticut Medical Society, to Sherris Hall, M. A., of Westport. Dissertation on "Ventilation."

It may be proper to add, that all the candidates, on both stages of the board, received the unanimous votes of all the members present.

ORSON WOOD,

APPENDIX B.

Comparison of the Financial Condition of the Medical Society in 1842 and 1851, in three particulars.

Amount of available funds, supposed in 1850,		\$1161.48
" " " " 1842,		715.71
Balance in favor of 1851,		\$385.78
Outstanding Delinquent Dues, 1851,	\$315.80	
Defunct cash on hand,	157.924	
	157.671	
Outstanding Delinquent Dues in 1842,	\$206.37	
Add Cash advanced by Treasurer,	41.54	
	\$148.21	
Balance in favor of 1851,	\$311.331	
	\$148.21	
General Balance in favor of Society in 1851,		\$751.66
" " " " 1842,		272.49
		561.17

ADDRESS.

THE first settlers of the colony of Connecticut came with but slender provision for the ills that awaited them. The pastor of the flock was the chief shepherd to whom they all looked for protection; and the teacher upon whose instructions, in sickness and in health, they mainly looked for guidance. But few members of our profession accompanied them, and it was not till they were settled on the river bank or the wood side, it was not till sickness invaded their lowly dwellings, that the value of medical services was duly appreciated; and it must be confessed that the early colonial settlements presented few attractions to allure the educated physicians of Europe to her borders. With a scattered population—with few of the conveniences and none of the luxuries of life—without means to remunerate them for their services—without roads—without books, without professional associates, it is not strange, it would be strange if it were otherwise, that we look in vain for accomplished physicians in the train of the first settlers of Connecticut.

In the year 1652, the general court granted the first medical license by which Thomas Lord was authorised to practice physic and surgery in Hartford and the adjoining towns. Thomas Lord belonged to a good family—was at times employed as a school-master—had paid some attention to the mysteries of the healing art, and was probably as well qualified to practice medicine as any other member of the colony. Fifteen pounds was to be his annual salary, so long as he devoted his time and attention, to the sick and suffering members of the colony. The fee-table of Dr. Lord, as established by the General Assembly, he having promised to charge no more, deserves to be transcribed for your especial notice.

"Thos. Loed having engaged to this court to continue his abode in Hartford for the next ensuing year, and to improve his best skill among the inhabitants of the towns upon the river, within this jurisdiction, both for setting of bones and otherwise, as at all times, occasions and necessities may require. This court doth grant, that he shall be paid by the country the sum of 15 pounds for the said ensuing year, and they also declare that for every visit or journey, that he shall take or make, being sent for, to any house in Hartford, 12 pence is reasonable; to any house in Windsor, five shillings; to any house in Wethersfield, three shillings; to any house in Farmington, six shillings; to any house in Mattabesock or Middletown, eight shillings, (he having promised that he will require no more,) and that he shall be freed, for the time aforesaid, from watching, warding and trailing, but not from finding arms according to law."

In 1662, ten years after he received a license, Dr. Loed died in Wethersfield, nor does it appear that he was ever regarded as a very learned or skillful physician.

In 1554 Daniel Porter was licensed to practice medicine and chirurgery, by the general court, which also granted him a small yearly salary. Doctor Porter lived at Farmington, but was required to attend upon those who needed his services in Windsor, Hartford and Wethersfield, with an occasional drive to Middletown. The general court established a fee-table for the doctor, from which we may infer what was a reasonable charge two centuries ago. He appears to have been celebrated as a bone-setter, and was for many years without a rival in the colony. In the year 1670, the general court, for the encouragement of Daniel Porter, increased his salary, and suggested to him the propriety of instructing some meet person in the art for which he was so much distinguished. Doctor Porter died in the year 1690, having been thirty-five years the general practitioner of the colony. The meet persons to whom he was invited to impart his skill, were probably Thomas Hooker of Farmington, and Samuel Mather of Windsor, both sons of the settled clergymen of those towns. We find accordingly, that in 1684, the general court did allow Thomas Hooker to practice the art of physic, and directed the

secretary to furnish him with a license. The same allowance was granted to Samuel Mather,* and the two were for many years resorted to by those who wished to obtain a license from the colonial government. In other instances, authority to practice was procured through the agency and influence of distinguished clergymen.

Two years afterwards, 1686, the court being "acquainted with the ability, skill and knowledge of Gershom Bulkley in the art of physic and chirurgery, did grant him full and free liberty and license in practice as there shall be occasion, and he shall be agreeable." A similar license was granted to Charles Bulkley of Wetherfield in 1688.

The character, family, and fame of Gershom Bulkley are worth consideration. He was the son of Rev. Peter Bulkley, an emigrant from England who settled at Concord, Massachusetts. Dr. Bulkley was born in 1635, while his parents were on their voyage from England to this country—graduated at the College in Cambridge—married the daughter of Rev. Dect. Chauncy, and was regarded as one of the most distinguished men of the county. He pursued the study of divinity and medicine for a few years, and then removed to Connecticut. After this he was the pastor of the churches at New London and at Wethersfield, for about twenty years. In the meantime the colonial government raised a force of three hundred and fifty men, to resist the aggression of their Indian neighbors. Mr. Bulkley was chosen surgeon of the forces, and appointed one of the council of war. He then relinquished his ministerial duties and was released from the obligations of his pastoral office—received a license to practice medicine in the colony, removed to Glastenbury, and devoted the last thirty years of a useful life to the cares and responsibilities of the medical profession. To chemistry with its useful researches, to alchemy and its visionary speculations, and to philosophy as a cardinal branch of medical knowledge, he was much devoted; and his laboratory was well furnished with retorts, crucibles and all the apparatus for performing experiments, and he was particularly

* The license to Samuel Mather, D.D., was granted by the general court, upon the recommendation of Rev. Samuel Mather, Thomas Hooker, and Mr. Thomas Park.

eminent for his skill in chemistry. His children were respectable in their character and connections, and all settled around him. One son was the physician of Wethersfield, and died early in life; one was a clergyman and physician in Colchester, where he became eminent in both professions; and one was a farmer and magistrate in his immediate neighborhood. His daughters were all married and their children became the comfort and solace of his old age. He was also a magistrate who maintained the dignity of his station, while he dispensed charity to the weak and justice to all; his opinions were always received with great respect.

It is worthy of notice that the first case of medical jurisprudence in the colony—perhaps the first in the country was referred to him for an opinion.

Mary Brown of Wallingford, was brought to trial for the murder of her son—as it was known that she had been subject to paroxysms of insanity, the court and the jury were in some perplexity relative to their own course of proceeding. To release themselves from this embarrassing position, the court granted leave to the jurors to consult the most learned men in the colony and obtain their advice. They applied to Dr. Bulkley, whose character as a divine, whose opinion as a physician, and whose judgment as a magistrate, were all held in high estimation. The following is the summary of his opinion: “If she were not *compas mentis* at the time of the fact it is no felony, and consequently no wilful or malicious murder; and if she be known to be a lunatic, though she have her lucid intervals, there had need be very good and satisfactory proof that she was *compas mentis* at the time of the fact committed, for the law favors life.” The legal opinion from which the above extract is taken was in advance of the age, and probably averted the doom of the unhappy woman who was on her trial for the murder of her child.

“The last will and testament of Gershom Bulkley, in the county of Hartford, in her majesty’s colony of Connecticut, practitioner of physio in the year 1713. The same Gershom Bulkley having more than 20 years walked upon the very mouth of the grave, had not been unmindful of that which nature and common sense call for in such cases. But in the

meantime sorrowful changes from the Most High have come upon me, and some that I had hoped could have survived have prevented me and left me behind them to mourn their loss." The doctor proceeds to direct that his debts should be paid and his body decently but obscurely buried, without much cost or ceremony, "and as for those few poor children which I shall leave behind me in a sinful and calamitous world, the best bequest I have for them is Luther's short but significant and pertinent prayer. *Tu Domine serva Dora*.—To him therefore I commend them all, humbly beseeching that he will accept them and theirs and make them all his own and faithful unto death, and that he will be their portion from generation to generation."

I have not time to follow the doctor through the details of his will. To his son John, the settled pastor of the church at Colchester, he gave a silver pocket watch, and his books, and manuscript which related to literature and theology. To his son Edward he gave the clock, the seal ring, the great gilt spoon, and the least of his silver porringers, and all the books and manuscript which he possessed touching matters of law. To his grandson, Richard Treat, he gave all his books and manuscripts, whether in English, Latin or the Dutch languages which any way concern medicine and chemistry, which books, with all his vessels and instruments, whether of glass, brass, copper, iron or stone, provided he hold and pursue his inclination to the study of medicine, but if by death or otherwise he be diverted and depart from it, he gave them to the next of his brethren who would apply himself to that study. To his daughter Catharine, then deceased, he had already given a portion of his worldly goods, but to her daughter Catharine, he gave the silver tankard, the light silver cucumbit, distinguished by its weight from that which he left to his daughter Dorothy, and by its size from that which belonged to the silver retort. He gave her also the silver salt cellar and the small silver dram cup. To his daughter Dorothy Treat, I will leave the doctor to speak for himself: "To my daughter Dorothy Treat aforesaid, who hath as yet had but little, and what she hath had is not now to be accounted for, I give all the rest of my personal property, whether it be in my own hand, or in the hands of others, or due and owing from others to me, except among them shall be any poor widow or widows, or other

truly poor persons not able to pay their debts to me—my will is that my executor shall remit it and not trouble them for it—yet with this advertisement that by poor I mean such as are indeed poor, at least by Divine Providence, and not by idleness; nor such as may say they are poor, and yet can find wherewith to drink, revel and swagger, and make themselves poor and others too. And in particular to her, my third daughter Dorothy, I give and bequeath my negro maid Hannah, solemnly requiring, that into whose hands soever she happen to come, they use her well, and consider that she hath a soul to save as well as we, and is a Christian and therefore that they make conscience to promote her in reading, catechism and all christianity—that she may profit and grow in religion and godliness, and attain the end of her baptism to the glory of God; and this I require, on her behalf, as they will answer the neglect thereof before God. For the execution of this my last will and testament, I nominate, constitute and appoint my son-in-law, Richard Treat, to be my sole and only executor.” Dr. Bulkeley died at Glastenbury in the year 1713, at the age of 78. From an inscription upon his “obscure and modest grave-stone” in the church yard at Wethersfield, it appears that he was regarded as a man of rare abilities and extraordinary industry—excellent in learning—master of many languages—exquisite in his skill in divinity, physic and law, and of a most exemplary and Christian life.

The next application to the Legislature for a license to practice medicine came from the ancient town of Stratford. Upon the memorial of doctor James Laborie of Stratford, showing to the General Assembly that he has been in the practice of physic for many years, under the conduct and direction of his father, who was a well-known gentleman, of great skill and practice, and being desirous to pursue practice under the allowance of the general court; Dr. Laborie requested a license, which was granted. In making the application, the doctor refers to the great skill and well-known reputation of his father, who also resided at Stratford. A friend has placed at my disposal the professional bill of the senior Dr. Laborie, to which I wish briefly to refer you, for the purpose of showing what remedies were used one hundred and fifty years since, and what remuneration was claimed for them. Dr. Laborie

was summoned over the river to Milford, by Mr. Lyron, the merchant of that place, whose wife was suffering from hysteric paroxysm or some nervous affection. The doctor promptly obeyed the summons, and with three men to row him over the river and through the ice, repaired to the house of the patient. That he attended the case with fidelity is apparent from the fact that in a few weeks he sent his employer a bill of charges exceeding £50. Mr. Lyron wished the items, of what he probably considered a large account, and as the case was brought to the court for judgment, the doctor was required to make out the bill in detail. From that account I have taken the liberty to note down a few extracts. "Lewis Lyron Dr. to James Laborie of Stratford, the 13th day of December, 1706, for his wife—My journey through the ice in a canoe with three men to put me over, 12s. The same night administered to his wife hysteric cordial, comp. doorectio and hysteric drink, £4 6s." For several days the hysteric cordial was diligently used and several pounds were charged for the same. In about ten days the remedy was changed, and four doses of my aal. polychrestes were administered at the expense of £1. The doctor also charged his friend for "my pills Royal" and "my polychrestes," and the "elisir vite of mine," enough to show that he held them in high estimation. For bleeding the arm, the charge was only 1s,—for bleeding the foot, 2s,—and for a blister to the shoulder, the cost was 9s. The whole amount of the doctor's bill was £59 and 2s.; and to recover this sum an action was brought into court. "Att a County Court held in Fairfield, March 9th, 1707, James Laborie of Stratford, physician, p^l, con^v. Lewis Lyron of Milford, defend^t is an action of debt due by book which is to the damage of the said James Laborie the sum of one hundred pounds current money of the colony of Connecticut. In this action the jury find for the p^l, vs defend^t to pay £62 18s. and 6d. cash, and cost of court—the court accepts the jury's verdict and give judgment accordingly. Bill of cost allowed £1 3s. 10d. cash—the defend^t appeals to the court of assistants at Hartford in May next, and the defend^t and Col. Matthew Sherwood acknowledge themselves bound to the treasury of the county in a Recognizance of £70 cash, that the defend^t shall prosecute his appeal to effect, and answer all

damages in case he make not his plea good." The defendant in preparing for a retiral of his case, sought the opinion of Dr. Clark and other physicians of Boston, and also of Dr. Fisk of Milford. From the former gentlemen the following document was received:

We the subscribers being requested to give our opinion of Dr. Laborie's account, upon due consideration, are of opinion that the prices of medicines in that account are extravagantly overcharged, and to the best of our judgment, considerably above £30 more than any honest practitioner would have charged.

Boston, April 10, 1708.

JOHN CLARK,
JOHN CUTLER,
OLIVER NOYES,
ABIAH SAVAGE.

The opinion of Dr. Fisk and his company was given in these words:—"We think the bill to be very unreasonable and extravagant in these respects—first, he has set a certain price to an uncertain quantity, of which he makes Mr. Lyron the debtor. He charges Mr. Lyron £34 of which he tells neither the quantity nor the specific quality, save only he says cataplasms, which is no more than to say posaltice—we may suppose it to be made of flax seed, or hyssop, which is no more than something for the mother—we may think it to be motherwort or something like—or diuretic, which may be pumpkin seeds or parsley roots. Considering the time, either he must be extravagant in his doses or his prices, for we think it not possible for any patient to use such quantity of medicine in so short a time—wherefore we are verily of opinion that Doctor Laborie does wrong himself and Mr. Lyron both, in that he over-charges Mr. Lyron £34 for these particular articles, and we think it unreasonable for a physician to charge his patients at pleasure, without any demonstration as to the quantity or worth, of what he makes them debtor for, and how Doctor Laborie will make out the rest of his bill to be reasonable, he must find the way himself if he can.

JOHN FISK, PRAC. PHYSIC.

May, 1708."

The only other document with which I will detain you, shows that the case was amicably arranged by the parties to the controversy, without obtaining the opinion of the general court.

— To the honorable court of assistants, now sitting at New Haven — For as much as we have agreed upon the case, before your court, we pray you would please, not to call the action to an hearing.

Your most obedient servants,

JAMES LAFORTE,
LEWIS LYBON."

Oct. 1788.

In 1695, the general court having had sufficient certificate of Nathaniel Wade's good ability and prosperous success, granted him liberty to practice physic and surgery, in this colony, and expressed their desire that the blessing of God might accompany his endeavors. Mr. Wade was a young man from Boston, who had graduated at the college in Cambridge, and had pursued a limited course of medical education. He first removed to Stratford, where he formed an acquaintance with Rev. Israel Chauncey, but soon transferred his residence to New Haven, where he also became known to Rev. Mr. Pierpont.

In May, 1695, he sent to the general court the following petition for their honorable license:—"The petition of Nathaniel Wade humbly sheweth, that being admitted an inhabitant of New Haven—having been educated at the college in Cambridge, under special advantages of knowledge in the faculty of medicine and chirurgery, for some time used in those sciences in the colony of Massachusetts, and for the space of a year and a half within this government, account it both my duty and prudence to beg your honorable allowance for serving the good people under your care as there may be opportunity in the exercise of those faculties, and your honorable license being granted, shall oblige your humble petitioner always to pray that God will make your walls salvation and your gates praise."

This petition was accompanied by a letter from Rev. Mr. Chauncey of Stratford, who says "I have been advantaged to have acquaintance with the aforesaid Mr. Wade and can give

testimony, that he hath had great opportunity by his abode with men of skill in Massachusetts, so he hath made considerable proficiency in phisic and chirurgery—and may, if the honorable court shall please to license his practice, be an instrument of great good in these ends of the colony where men of skill are so scarce.” These documents were enclosed in a letter from the Rev. Mr. Pierpont of New Haven, where Mr. Wade had improved his abilities. Mr. Pierpont had “received letters from Dr. Oliver, Mr. Beattie and Mr. Stoddard of Northampton, which furnished a good account of not only his education, manners, pious inclinations, but also of his manifest and known capacity in the mysteries of medicine and chirurgery.” He adds “we have had satisfactory experience at New Haven, and, according to my observation, for his time, he has so accomplished that we have great reason of both satisfaction and thankfulness.” Mr. Pierpont adds a postscript to his letter, having no reference to the application of Mr. Wade, which shows that opinions change with the changing tide. There existed at that time a law in the colony, which prohibited the distillation of spirits from grain—the writer urged the general court to repeal that law, on the ground that “rye was a drug in the market and spirits very scarce.”

The following petitions for a license to practice medicine in the colony, were presented to the general court, and were most of them granted.

Petition of John Fisk of Milford.—“That whereas relating to phisic and chirurgery, the laws of our sovereign lord the king the security of the practitioner and the safety of the public readers it requisite and necessary, that those who practice on the bodies of their neighbors, where life and limbs are concerned, should be persons approved therein, and licensed thereto; and whereas I have now by the providence of God, the bounds of my habitation within this your colony, where I am engaged in and obliged to practice the above said art—Therefore, I petition for a license to practice therein.”

From Wrentham, where Dr. Fisk had formerly resided, a certificate was appended, “that John Fisk had for many years, and with good success, practiced in the arts of phisic and chirur-

gery, and had made many notable cures, and had generally been accounted one of good skill and understanding in many maladies and their remedies, of which some of us have had experience."

21st Feb. 1694.

1705. Selectmen and others of Norwalk, in behalf of John Copp.—"If any petition shall be presented in behalf of John Copp, school-master, of our town, to be an approved physician, these lines are to assure your honours, that it will be well accepted and approved by most people among us. We judge him to be a safe and conscientious man, and have experienced considerable good by his administration among us."

1704. The next petition was from Obadiah Hosford of Heleron, for a license to practice. The testimonials which he presented to the General Assembly were, one from Gershom Bulkley, and the other from Samuel Mather. The former knew from certain rumors, and in part from himself, that he "hath practiced for years, but as for his learning, skill and success in said art and practice of physic, I know nothing." Dr. Mather certified that he had hosted of his practice some years past, and by the good acceptance he hath had among his people, and by what he had gained by reading and experience in that science. Dr. Mather approved of his being an allowed physician. Dr. Bulkley's certificate bears date Glastenbury, May 7th, and Dr. Mather's, Windsor, May 10th, 1712.

1721. Dr. Blagget, Plainfield. — Whereas Wm. Blagget of Plainfield, hath practiced physic in the colony of Connecticut, sundry years.—We, the subscribers, would inform the General Assembly, that he hath had good success in his practice, and hath done much good, through God's blessing, to many distressed sick people—sundry of us having much improved him, also that he is accounted a skillful physician as well by doctors, as by those who have improved him."

This petition bears the signature of many residents in Plainfield and Canterbury. The prayer of Wm. Blagget declared that he "had for many years studied the art and method of physic—had made divers experiments, by the blessing of God, with good success, to the satisfaction of those who have been bene-

fited and blessed thereby, besides the judgment and approbation of diverse able doctors in the neighboring governments, doth therefore pray the Hon. Assembly to grant the suppliant a license or commission to practice physic, as is usual in such cases." This prayer and the recommendation did not avail, and the license of Mr. Blagget was not granted.

As Dr. Blagget was a physician of some fame and large experience in the Eastern part of the State, I was interested to know why his petition, endorsed by the population of Canterbury and Plainfield, should have been refused. I found no objection to his moral character—no want of medical skill, for he practiced to satisfaction—which implied that those who witnessed the doctor's proceedings, and those who tried his medicines, were satisfied with the result. The petition of Dr. Blagget shows plainly enough that he was an illiterate man, who could not with propriety be reckoned with the members of any learned profession. I wish to call the attention of those who teach, and of those who examine medical students, to the fact that one hundred and thirty years ago, deficiency in literary attainments was a fatal bar to those who sought to be enrolled, under legislative sanction, with the physicians of the colony. Let that bar remain, sustained as it has been by the verdict of public opinion—by the judgment of our own profession—by the laws of our wide-spread country.

In the early part of the last century, a young resident of Hartford left the colony for the sole purpose of obtaining a medical education. In accordance with English custom, he pursued the study seven years, with a physician in Boston, and on his return to Hartford, commenced the practice. In the year 1723, (he was then twenty-eight years old) he applied to the general court for a license, and his application being enforced by the good opinions of Dr's. Mather and Hooker, was granted. From that time Dr. Bull was in active business; his manners were courteous, his opinions were held in high estimation, and his advice was sought for by those who needed his counsel in every part of the county. In short, he was for many years *the* physician of the county; and among his pupils were the first Dr. Wells of Berlin, Dr. Hart and Dr. Rogers of Danbury. Dr. Bull built a house on

Main-street, where the South Baptist Church now stands. It was not many years ago occupied by his son, the late Judge Bull, and in his garden have been erected five of the most beautiful houses in Main-street.

In the year 1720, Benj. Hall of Wallingford, applied for a license from the General Assembly to practice physic, which was granted.

1733. — Whereas Uriah Rogers of Norwalk, late an apprentice to Jonathan Bull, physician of Hartford, hath desired the subscribers to certify others of his practice in physic since his living in Norwalk—These are therefore to signify his practice has been full and large—his success very good—his behaviour grave, modest and obliging, and he seems to be well acquainted both with disengergs and medicine. If he applies to the Gen. Assembly for a license to practice we believe he will answer such a character.

JOHN COFF,
DAN'S CHAPMAN."

The same year Sam'l Porter of Farmington, applied for and received a license to practice medicine within the jurisdiction of this colony.

These cases are sufficient to show in what manner the earliest physicians in the colony became authorized to practice medicine and surgery. If allowed by the General Assembly, they were not required to pay taxes, and were excused from military and other personal duties till the year 1740, after which they were taxed the same as other citizens. It does not appear that all who practiced physic in the colony, were authorized by the Legislature. It was no uncommon thing for a young man to enter upon the study of medicine, under the guidance of some neighboring physician, to ride with him till he felt competent to ride alone and then, with a certificate of his good character and satisfactory attainments, to become a candidate for public favor.

The following is a fair specimen of the testimony to which I have referred:

"This may certify whom it may concern that I y^e subscriber

for two years time have given Thomas Thompson at Farmington sundry directions in y^e mysteries of physie and chirurgery and doe find that y^e said Thompson hath made a considerable progress in said arts and withal finding him to be very careful in his practice and administrations—doe judge him to be a man as likely to do good in said mysteries as any man I know of that is not advantaged with college learning.

"Farmington, March y^e 29th, 1703.

"THOMAS HASTINGS, licensed physician, &c."

"This may certify that I the subscriber do judge the above said Thos: Thompson has a considerable insight in the art of physie and chirurgery and has for many years practised the said art and with good success in his administrations.

"Farmington, May the 12th, 1721.

"SAMUEL PORTER, allowed chirurgion."

CLERICAL PHYSICIANS.

In the early days of the colony there was a class of men, who, in their training for one sphere of usefulness were incidentally qualified for another. These were the clerical physicians. They were generally well educated, of unquestioned piety, and more than ordinary industry. Of the more distinguished of these men were Gershom Bulkeley of Wethersfield, to whom I have already referred, and Isiah Collins of Litchfield. They both resigned the ministerial office, and in their old age devoted their energies to the medical profession. Others, like Elliot of Killingworth, Fiske of Hadham, and John Bulkeley of Colchester, continued to exercise the functions of both professions till their days of usefulness were ended.

Jared Elliott was the son of the minister at Gullford, and the grandson of the more celebrated John Elliott, who wrote against the use of wine and tobacco, and labored with great zeal and success for the conversion of the Indians. Jared Elliott was born in 1685, and graduated at Yale College in 1706. Three years after leaving college, he was ordained pastor of the church at Killingworth, but he was more known as a useful physician than distinguished as an eloquent divine. To drain the lands and make them productive, to raise the mulberry-tree and furnish the colony with silk, and to superintend the agri-

cultural improvements of his farm, were objects to which his attention was occasionally devoted; but the great business of his life was the practice of the healing art. For this purpose he studied much, and was well versed in the works of Hippocrates, Galen and Celsus. His practice was extensive, and as his success in the treatment of chronic ailments was great, he was called often to visit patients in every part of the colony. He was the personal friend and correspondent of Berkeley and Franklin, and the instructor of several medical pupils. For forty years he is said to have preached every Sunday, and to have devoted some part of every week to the practice of medicine. He was methodical in making his arrangements and industrious in their execution. He was moreover liberal in his character—enjoyed a high reputation in his life time, and left an honored reputation behind him.

Dr. Elliott died at Killingworth in 1763.

Rev. Phineas Fisk was a cotemporary of Dr. Elliott, and a son of Dr. John Fisk of Milford, to whose opinion of Dr. Lathrop's indefinite charges I have already referred you. To Rev. Dr. Fisk of Haddam, I am indebted for the following sketch of the character of the Rev. Phineas Fisk.—He was a man of great respectability and excellence, both as a divine and physician. He was graduated at Yale College in 1764, and was appointed tutor of that institution, and after the death of Rector Pearson, the under classes were especially under his care; he maintained his connection with the college six years, and had a high reputation as an instructor. He was then licensed to preach the gospel, and was subsequently ordained pastor, with the Rev. Jeremiah Hobart of Haddam. How early he studied medicine is not known. His father, John Fiske of Milford, was a physician, and he may have studied with him, even before he turned his attention to divinity. Be this as it may, he became an eminent practitioner, and might have had as much fame as Dr. Elliott had he lived as long. He was much known and greatly esteemed in his day.

John Bulkley of Colchester, was graduated at Harvard College in 1699, and three years afterwards remained and settled at Colchester. While in college he was a distinguished scholar, and he extended his researches into the various departments of

law, medicine and theology. He was classed by the Rev. Dr. Chauncy as among the men most eminent for strength of genius and powers of mind which New England had produced; and by Peters, who rarely wasted compliments upon the good people of Connecticut, the Bulkleys are spoken of with respect. "Colchester has to boast of Rev. John Bulkley for its first minister, whose grandfather, Peter Bulkley, possessed a gentleman's estate in Bedfordshire, which he sold and spent the produce among his servants in Massachusetts. "John Bulkley was a great scholar, and suffering prudence to govern his hard temper, he conciliated the esteem of all parties and became the ornament of the *sober dissenters* in Connecticut. He was a lawyer, a physician, and a divine; he published an ingenious pamphlet to prove that the title of the people to their lands was good, because they had taken them out of the state of nature. His argument satisfied many who thought their titles were neither legal, just nor scriptural, indeed it may seem conclusive if his major proposition be granted, that the English found Connecticut in a state of nature. His son John, was a lawyer and physician of great reputation, and was appointed a judge of the supreme court very young. He and his father were suspected to be not sound in the faith, because they used in their prayers, some portion of the English Liturgy."

I have a few words to say respecting the personal appearance of our early predecessors. Some of them, as I have already mentioned, were clergymen who appeared in public with their wig and cocked hat, and would have thought it unbecoming to exhibit themselves in any other dress. Those physicians who assumed the character of learned and well behaved members of the profession, were bedecked like the clergy, in a professional costume. As an illustration of the fact, I may refer to the portraits of the old physicians, and also to their wardrobes. Jonathan Williams graduated at Yale College in 1722, and pursued the practice of medicine at Wethersfield until he died, in 1738. He was but thirty years old at the time of his death. In the Probate Office at Hartford, is an inventory of his estate, from which I make the following extract:—Hat and

bands, £2 12s. ; Wig, £1 10s. ; Best coat was valued £10 ; and his Leather breeches, £3 5s.

His library consisted of the *Modern Physician*, by Philip Woodhouse, and the *Principles of Medicine*, by Thomas Morgan; The *History of Oliver Cromwell*, and a copy of *Euclid* were his miscellaneous books, all valued at something more than 20s.

I wish next to invite your attention to Dr. James Hurlburt of Berlin, who was born in the year 1717. At the beginning of his professional career he was distinguished for industry and talents, and soon acquired the reputation of being a learned man and skillful physician. Students applied to him for instruction, patients for relief, and neighboring physicians for counsel. Respected for his learning, and admired for his genius, the doctor might have pursued a course of unvarying prosperity, but the brilliancy of his morning sun was obscured by the clouds of noon-day, and by the thick darkness of evening. He adopted the practice of drinking ardent spirits, at first moderately and occasionally, but his moderation was soon converted into excess, and his occasional potations became frequent and immoderate; and the doctor became a slave to vicious indulgence. He was no longer the pleasant associate of other physicians—no longer the gentleman whom all were glad to meet, nor the esteemed physician whom men of prudence would wish to consult; but a sot in his appearance, a vagabond in his habits, he lived to disgrace himself and inflict a stigma upon his profession. Dr. Woodward informs us that he would not in his latter years, prescribe for any patient till the square bottle of rum was placed under his care and exclusive control. He used, at the same time, enormous quantities of opium—rum for excitement, and opium to steady the effects of the rum. "For many of his last years all the avails of his practice were expended in the purchase of opium, but he was rarely intoxicated, and when so much under the influence of alcohol as not to be able to stand, his mind would appear to be clear, and his judgment unimpaired. When in the attire of a vagrant, he walked about supported by his staff, lame, filthy and miserable; if his attention was engaged to any subject of learning, he would exhibit such resources of information, such powers of logic, such judicious and sensible remarks as would astonish all

his auditors, and particularly surprise strangers." The doctor's usual place of residence was at Berlin, near the line of the Hartford and New Haven railroad, but he tasted his last dram and uttered his last groan at the house of some friend in Wethersfield, where he was buried. There was neither monument nor beacon placed over his grave to tell the visitor how he rose to a station of eminence, and how he sunk to the condition of poverty and contempt.

I have alluded to the pupils of Dr. Hurlburt, of whom the most eminent was Dr. Bird of Litchfield. He, too, was a man of uncommon talent, who paid as much reverence to Boerhaave and the brandy bottle, as had ever been exhibited by his learned but eccentric teacher, but he was more prudent in his financial arrangements and maintained to the last his position in society. "He was," says Dr. Bush, "a remarkable man and the vigor of his mind was what I think may be called prodigious." His son John, a member of Congress from the state of New York, was a man of great and original genius, eccentric and imaginative, not so much distinguished for sound common sense as his father, but in my limited opportunities I have known of no instances of what I thought superior original powers of mind, to those of the Birds, father and son." An opinion was once prevalent in this state, and Hurlburt and Bird may have given it currency, that those physicians who used ardent spirits freely, were the very best doctors, if their services could be secured before it was too late in the day—in other words, that a certain amount of stimulation sharpened the intellect, and enabled them to prescribe for the various forms of disease with extraordinary skill and success. This idea, which fortunately for the cause of good morals, has become obsolete, probably originated at a time when physicians under the excitement of ardent spirits, discoursed most fluently respecting medical theories, and most confidently concerning the great success of their own practice. The oratory of a physician under this artificial excitement might have been more impressive than the dry discourse of his sober mood, but it was a mere delusion, to infer that his practice was more safe or more effectual.

Dr. Bird, however, appears to have formed a high estimate

of the remedial powers of brandy. In his old age his eyes became red and inflamed, and a friend suggested to him that he would not advise a patient in his situation the same course of living. Bird replied, I can do without eyes but I cannot live without brandy. He was probably admonished by the sad career of Hurlburt to make some provisions for the future. He was moreover disposed to encourage others to adopt the same pretensions. On one occasion, having met Dr. Catlin in consultation and disposed of the case of the patient, Bird observed to his friend, "Catlin, you are devilish poor, and ought not to be so. I have laid by something for a rainy day, and it is not too late to retrieve your circumstances—charge more, take care of your money, and in five years you will be as well off as I am." Catlin's pungent reply was, "No, Bird, four years of rascality won't do it."

Dr. Bird was born at Bethlem in 1733, and died at Litchfield at the age of 72 years; he and his preceptor may be regarded as uncommon specimens of the drinking doctors of Connecticut.

The next most eminent physician who practiced medicine in this part of the county, was Norman Morrison. He was a native of the Western Isles of Scotland—was educated at the University of Edinburgh, which was at that time requiring distinction by the character of its medical school. Having completed his medical studies, he left Glasgow for this country in 1736. Cullen, at that time, was 24 years of age, and shortly afterwards commenced his brilliant career of instruction. Doctor Morrison came with a full consciousness of the dignity of his profession, and of his own personal duty to sustain it. He was the first man in the colony who separated the practice of medicine from pharmacy, and encouraged the establishment of an independent apothecary in this city, and by so doing he proved himself in advance of the other physicians.

When he first arrived in the country, he purchased of Mr. Sheldon of Suffield, a house and lot in Main-street, a few rods North of the Court House. Temple-street was subsequently opened through his grounds, and the Market and City Hall stand on its eastern borders. Dr. Morrison was at all times regarded as a learned physician, and to him many young men of the colony, resorted for instruction.

Alexander Woolcott of Windsor, son of the governor, and John Osborne of Middletown, son of the first doctor Osborne, were the most distinguished of his pupils. He married the widow of Mr. John Smith, a young merchant in the London trade, and by his marriage acquired a large accession to his property.

He was highly esteemed by his professional brethren, and was frequently solicited to visit their patients in consultation. On one occasion he was requested to visit a patient with Dr. Andrews, who resided on the borders of Farmington and Berlin, and was known as the Indian doctor, whose skill had been derived from his friendly intercourse with the natives. As he was an unlearned man who had never pursued any course of medical studies, our Scotch doctor was in some perplexity as to whether he should obey the summons or decline it. Dignity said "no"—duty said "yes," and conscience was appeased by appointing a time when he would visit the patient. But the letter was in Latin, and gave no light to Andrews till he resorted to a neighboring clergyman, who translated it into English. Andrews, who had been with the Indians enough to gain something of their language, returned an answer to Dr. Morrison in the native dialect, and in this instance, the Yankee was too shrewd for the Scotchman. In the midst of his professional usefulness, Dr. Morrison's only son was seized with small pox, and in accordance with the laws of that period, the civil authority interfered and required the unfortunate young man to be removed to some house remote from his family, and there he died. Indignation and sorrow mingled in the father's heart, and were depicted in his countenance. The son was brought to his father's garden and buried, and there by his side, at a future day, were placed the remains of Dr. Norman Morrison. The following inscription was copied from his monument:—"Under this monument are Buried the Remains of Norman Morrison, who being born in the Western Island of Scotland and educated at Edinburgh, lived a physician inferior to none—an husband, brother, father and friend among the most excellent; in manners gentle, to those in need, liberal; kind and beneficent to all, and a Christian without deceit. He died much loved and lamented, the 9th of April, 1761, in y^e 58th year of his age.

Any reference to the physicians of Hartford county would be incomplete if it contained no allusion to Dr. Alexander Woolcott of Windsor. He was born in 1711, graduated at Yale College in 1731, and shortly afterwards became a student of medicine in the office of Dr. Norman Morrison. His father had been the chosen leader of that band of adventurers who left Connecticut for the capture of Louisburg, and for the success of that bold enterprise, much was due to the valor and discretion of Oliver Woolcott. The successful hero shortly afterwards became governor of the colony. His son Alexander pursued the study of medicine under the most auspicious circumstances. At college he was distinguished for his classical attainments, and afterwards for the energy with which he unravelled the mysteries of the healing art. When he had finished his course of medical studies, Dr. Woolcott returned to Windsor to practice the duties of his profession. His library was large and well selected, and its array of folios, mostly in Latin, which would make a student of this day shudder with apprehension. Yet in such a form were the works of Boetius, Sennertus and Morgagni, while in less ponderous shape, but in the same language, were found the first edition of the great work of Sydenham; and Dr. Woolcott was in the practice of reading these ponderous tomes of Latin and Greek, though one of the sons, to whom they devolved, looked upon them as excellent waste paper, and as such employed them. Thirty years ago the remnant of this ancient library came into my possession, and at that time it contained 200 volumes of what a medical man may designate as the early fathers of his profession.

About the year 1740 Dr. Woolcott commenced the practice of medicine at Windsor. He had a faithful domestic to escort him when he visited his patients, and to aid him in preparing medicines for the sick. In this way, Primus and his master lived on for years, till it occurred to the latter, that the old negro should be released from bondage. Primus was free, but he did not waste months in doubt respecting his future employment. He immediately removed to the opposite bank of the river, and was at once recognized as a doctor, and as such frequently employed. On one occasion he was requested to visit

a sick child at Pequonnock. Primus obeyed the summons, and employed such remedies as, in his judgment, the case demanded. On his way home, he rapped at the door of his old master, who came out to inquire what was wanted. "Nothing particular, master, I called to say that I was sent for to see a child of our old neighbor—found it a very simple case, and said to the mother it was not necessary for her to send so far for a doctor, for you would have done for the child just as well as any one else." His practice, however, was mainly on the east side of the river, where he more frequently crossed the path of Dr. Mather. On some such occasion, the doctor accosted him—"What, Primus, do you practice yet?" "Only in difficult cases, master," was the old negro's reply.

Both in difficult cases and in plain ones, Primus found employment for his old age, and was esteemed a physician of some skill, as he was a man of more than common shrewdness. Dr. Woolcott was greatly respected in his old age, for he had laid that foundation on which the heritage of other people is frequently based—he had laid by stores of medical knowledge, which he had imparted freely to the sick and suffering—he was respected because he was useful to others, and because he respected himself. Two of his sons were physicians, one who practiced at Windsor after the death of his father, and Simon, who resided at New London, and was one of the founders of the Connecticut Medical Society.

When in 1776 the General Assembly was forced to make some provision for the medical staff of the army, they chose a committee to examine all who applied for the post of surgeons or surgeons' mates. Dr. Woolcott was at the head of that committee.

PHYSICIANS OF THE ARMY.

The war in which the colonies were involved, elicited some degree of medical talents. During the Pequot war, Gershom Birkley was elected surgeon of the forces raised in Connecticut to repress Indian hostilities. His pay was but the moderate allowance of 14 shillings per week. In the year 1742, an expedition against Louisburg was promoted by the English gov-

ernment, and the colonies embarked with as much zeal as if the quarrel had been their own. The Connecticut forces, under the command of General Woolcott, and Dr's. Reed of Simsbury, Durand of Derby, and Whisler of Stratford, were chosen by the general court to accompany the expedition, as medical attendants. Soon afterwards four regiments of the American colonies were sent to co-operate with the English, in a military excursion against the Spanish West Indies, and Dr. Tudor of East Windsor, was one of the physicians who attended that ill-fated expedition. For it should not be forgotten that the invasion of Cuba, an hundred years ago, was not more successful than in our own day. The Spanish forces offered but weak resistance, but the fatal climate of the Havanna was irresistible, and the English forces, with their colonial allies, were compelled to retreat from the pestilence which walked in darkness. Of course, in this expedition, there was great call for medical skill, and a good opportunity for its display. That Dr. Tudor was abundantly employed, and that his services were duly appreciated, no one will question who knew the character of the man. He returned with the expedition to England, where he acquired knowledge and dispensed it as an hospital surgeon, and at the end of ten years was permitted to retire with that most satisfactory of all testimonials—half-pay for life. He left England when he was 34 years old, and died at East Windsor in March, 1820, at the age of 59—having enjoyed the pension of the British government about 60 years. In the meantime, he pursued the practice of his profession at East Windsor, where he spent a long life of useful labor, respected by his brethren, honored and loved by his patients. Dr. Tudor was an earnest friend of this society when it was first established, and for many years an active member of the same.

In the year 1755, another expedition was fitted out by the colony to resist the aggressions of the French. The medical men who were appointed to attend that expedition, were:

Timothy Collins of Litchfield,
Jonathan Marsh of Newick,
Sam'l Ely of Durham.

The army to which these were attached was sent against Crow's Point. Each surgeon was to be furnished with a complete

set of instruments, and a box of medicines, at the charge of the colony, and each was to receive £7 per month for his services.

Timothy Collins, a native of Guilford, and graduated at Yale College, was the first settled pastor of Litchfield, where he performed the duties of the Christian ministry for thirty years. In 1752 he was released from his pastoral charge—appointed justice of peace, and devoted his energies to the practice of physio. In certain departments of the profession, his wife had already acquired distinction. In a few years Dr. Collins relinquished his station in the army on account of ill health, but as the French war continued, Dr. Elisha Loom was chosen surgeon and director of the hospital stores, and Philip Turner of Norwich, surgeon's mate. The troops were under the command of Gen. Lyman, and their destiny was Crown Point, and here it may be well to observe that several physicians entered the military service of the colony in the interval of time which extended from the year 1745 to 1765, but generally for short periods, and without designing to relinquish the practice to which they had been accustomed. Some of the younger members of our profession, remained longer in the service, and gained great distinction. Dr. Waldo of Pomfret, returned from his military campaign to sustain the position of the most eminent surgeon of his district.

Philip Turner became popular as assistant surgeon in the French war, and was surgeon general of the Northern States during the war of the Revolution. One of our former presidents, Dr. Waitrous of Colechester, entered early in life upon the same service, and at the end of his military career, returned to the sphere of his professional duties, where he ranked with the most useful and most esteemed physicians of the State. It has generally been thought that these military campaigns, gave an impulse to the progress of medical learning in the colony, and that the men who were thus brought together, each communicated and each gained some share of professional knowledge. They certainly were more social in their habits, and more gentlemanly in their deportment, but the good cause of temperance and morality must have suffered from their example.

In April, 1775, our ancestors were in the midst of the excitement of the approaching revolution. Five regiments were

organized by the colonial government for the purpose of resisting the aggressions of the mother country. The following physicians were appointed to serve in the several regiments :—

1st Reg.—Jared Potter, surgeon.

" Levi Ives, Isaac Chaiker, surgeon's mates.

2d Reg.—Wm. Jepson, surgeon.

" Daniel Southmayd, John R. Watrous, sur. mates.

3d Reg.—John Spalding, surgeon.

" Samuel Cheesey, Elijah Adams, sur. mates.

4th Reg.—Sam'l Wheeler, surgeon.

" Dan'l Sheldon, Abel Carlin, sur. mates.

5th Reg.—John Wood, surgeon.

" Asel Fitch, Sam'l Whiting, sur. mates.

The medical gentlemen thus suddenly called to the service of the colony, were many of them devoted to the arduous duties of private practice, and could not well be spared by their patients, or leave their homes. They were of necessity obliged to decline the proffered honors of the Legislature, and a necessity arose for making other appointments. Under these circumstances, the General Assembly adopted the suggestions of the physicians of Norwich, and elected a committee of medical examiners, which extended to every section of the State, and embraced several names of distinction.

The committee consisted of the following members of the medical profession :

Alexander Wolcott,	Platt Townsend,
John Dickinson,	Amos Mend,
John Watrous,	James Coggeswell,
Eneas Monson,	John Clark,
Leverett Hubbard,	Elisha Lord,
Elisha Tracy,	Sam'l Lee,
Elias Carrington,	Ruben Smith,
Benjamin Gale,	Elisha Sill,
Eleazer Mather,	Seth Bird,

And it was resolved that these or any three of them, be appointed to examine such persons within this State as may offer themselves to serve as surgeons and surgeon's mates in the continental army, and upon full evidence of proper and sufficient qualifications to give certificates accordingly.

The first M. D. granted by Yale College, was conferred on Daniel Turner in the year 1720, rather as a compliment for his liberality to the college, than as an indication of distinguished merit.

The question is said to have been asked, "what is the meaning of M. D.?" and the witty reply of the collegian, "*Multum Donavit*," was at that time perfectly satisfactory.

MEDICAL SOCIETIES.

I wish next to refer you to the early medical societies of Connecticut.

In the year 1762, the physicians of Norwich, many of whom were distinguished men, applied to the Colonial Legislature for the charter of a medical society. Their memorial contained suggestions of practical value, and was well calculated to advance the general interests of the colony and the welfare of the medical profession.

To the Honorable Gen. Assembly of the Colony of Connecticut:

The memorial of the subscribers, physicians in said colony, humbly sheweth, that whereas life is the most desirable of all sublunary enjoyments, and health so invaluable a blessing that without it some degree of life is little worth, and that the promoting medical knowledge among physicians is the necessary and direct means to restore health, and even preserve life, and is of great importance, as it will render the practice of physic more safe and serviceable to the patient, and at the same time yield more satisfaction to the profession. And whereas more than one hundred years have already passed away since the planting of this colony, and nothing has been done publicly to distinguish between the honest and ingenious physician and the quack or empirical pretender; by reason of which imposture has been but too commonly practiced to the great injury of the people as well as to the disparagement of the profession.

We, your memorialists, therefore humbly pray your honors to take the matter under your wise consideration, and enact that the physicians in each county of this colony, for their mutual edification and instruction, have liberty to meet together at such time and place as they shall appoint, once in

three months, and at the first of each their meetings, choose a committee of three approved physicians, to continue for the space of one year, and annually to be chosen; such committee, for the time being, to have full power to examine, and if found duly qualified, to approve such candidates for the practice, as shall offer themselves for examination—and if any person offering himself shall be adjudged not qualified, and so not approved by the committee, he may apply himself to any quarterly meeting in the same county, and be there examined, and be determined by such meeting, and approved if they think fit, by proper certificate. And that for the future no person or persons that are not already deemed physicians, who shall pretend to practice without such approbation and certificate, shall be allowed to bring or maintain an action to recover any debt, demand or other thing, for any service he shall pretend to have done or presumed, as a physician, or otherwise exact, and order some proper regulations for the practice of physic, as your wisdom should have thought most proper.”

Norwich, 27th Sept., 1763.

SIGNED.

Theophilus Rogers,	Joseph Perkins,
Joshua Downer,	Philip Turner,
Cyrel Carpenter,	Elisha Tracy,
Obadiah Kingsbury,	Moses Morris,
Ebenezer Robinson,	John Barker,

Elisha Lord.

—In the Lower House the question was put whether any thing should be granted on this memorial, and passed in the negative.”

Dr. Lord had been previously appointed surgeon of the forces raised in the colony to repel the encroachments of the French.

Philip Turner, an assistant surgeon of the same corps, had just returned from the military service, to Norwich. He was when he signed the above memorial 22 years old, and soon afterwards married the daughter of his preceptor, Dr. Elisha Tracy. His handsome person and pleasing address attracted the attention of the English surgeons; he witnessed and performed many important operations, and was fast rising to the eminent position which he subsequently reached.

Dr. Tracy, whose name is found on the same memorial, was an eminent classical scholar and a practical physician, who was distinguished for his moral and social virtues.

Dr. Downer lived at Preston City, which was formerly part of Norwich, and was much respected for his practical skill. His son, probably educated under the superintendence of a worthy parent, is one of the oldest members of the State society. He was examined by the committee of the New London medical society, and received from them a license to practice, a short time before the Connecticut medical society was incorporated.

Another name attached to the same memorial deserves our passing attention. Theophilus Rogers was the son of an English physician, who, leaving part of his family in England, came to Norwich with his son, then a young lad, whom he educated and trained for the duties of his own profession. To know in what estimation Dr. Rogers was held, it may not be necessary to say he was first on this catalogue of petitioners. Our own society has been honored by the professional excellence of several members of the same family; among whom, last, but not least, is Dr. Benjamin Rogers of Hartford.

Dr. Joseph Perkins was at that time a prominent physician in the colony. He was at the time of signing the memorial 36 years old; had received a liberal education; possessed brilliant talents; was ardent in the pursuit of professional knowledge and distinguished for his charity and benevolence.

Drs. Barker and Kingsbury, whose names are on the same paper, were respected physicians in the neighboring town of Franklin, both esteemed as honorable members of the profession, and both leaving a cherished memory behind them.

It is singular that a memorial embracing such reasonable suggestions, and such respectable signatures, was not sanctioned by the Legislature. The plan was admirably suited to the wants of the public and of the profession, and, though not approved by the wisdom of the Lower House, it was immediately adopted by the physicians of New London county, and became the basis of the first medical society in Connecticut.

Dr. Lord soon afterwards removed to Pomfret, where, in concert with Dr. Abigence Waldo and other respectable physicians, a medical society was established in Windham county.

But of that society—its organization—its members—the objects for which it was established—and the means by which these objects were to be obtained, I have discovered nothing beyond the bare fact of its existence.

About the year 1765, a medical society was established in Litchfield county. The diffusion of medical knowledge, and the improvement of medical skill by friendly communication of physicians with each other, were the objects aimed at, and a consideration of this importance induced a number of gentlemen of Litchfield county to form themselves into a medical society.

The following extract from cotemporary history, refers to the same subject.

"Though Litchfield is the youngest county in Connecticut, yet in 1766 it set an example to the rest worthy of imitation. The province had always been greatly pestered by a generation of men called quacks, who, with a few Indian nostrums, a lancet, a glister pipe, rhubarb, treacle water mixed with Roman balsam of *tens cres* and *tens ports*, attacked fevers, nervous disorders, and broken bones, and by the grace of perseverance, subdued nature, and helped their patients to a passage to the world of spirits before they were ready. The surgeons and physicians who were not quacks, formed themselves into a society for the encouragement of literature, and a regular and wholesome practice. But their laudable endeavors were discomtented by the General Assembly, who refused to comply with their solicitation for a charter; because the quacks and the people said "If the charter were granted, the learned men would become too rich by a monopoly, as they had in England." The answer to this objection, was, "Would it not be better to permit a monopoly to preserve the health and lives of the people, than to suffer quacks to kill them and ruin the province?"

To the venerable Dr. Buel of Litchfield, I am indebted for a communication from which the following is an extract:—

"One of the earliest medical events of my recollection, was attending a meeting of the medical society at North Canaan, in the year 1789. I attended as a spectator, having not long before located myself in Sheffield, Mass., as a practitioner of medicine. How this was constituted I cannot tell, I should think it might have been a county society, but from the cir-

cumstance which I distinctly recollect, that Dr. Potter of Fairfield county, was its presiding officer, and manifested in a feeling manner the great interest he had taken in the prosperity of the institution." It should be remembered that the society was formed for the improvement of its members, by friendly communication—that Dr. Potter lived in New Fairfield, which, if symmetry had been regarded, would have been attached to Litchfield county—that he was a member of the society, and manifested great interest in the social gatherings of his profession. He was, moreover, admirably qualified to preside at such reunions of the medical faculty, himself enjoying and diffusing pleasure to others. Other traces of the Litchfield society may be discovered in the personal history of its members. The late Dr. Benjamin Welch of Norfolk, commenced the practice of medicine a few years before the State Medical Society was incorporated, "but," says his biographer, "he was examined and licensed by the commissioners of the Litchfield county medical society." Dr. Welch was for a long time the principal physician of Norfolk, where he was highly and justly esteemed, and about thirty years since, he was a member of our State Legislature, a patriarch in appearance, and truly a patriarch in character. His children were trained in their father's footsteps, and five of them live to do honor to our profession, and to the judicious nurture in which they were trained. One of them is a member of our State Senate; and probably occupies the same position, which, thirty years ago, was assigned to his father; another holds the same honorable position in the Legislature of Massachusetts—if they pursue the same path of wisdom they will be justly entitled to rank with their respected parent among the honorable members of our profession.

✱Among the distinguished members of the Litchfield County Society, Dr. Daniel Sheldon occupied a prominent position. In early life he was attacked by a severe pulmonary affection, but he persevered in his professional labors until his health was entirely restored. His own illness probably led him to a more minute investigation of pulmonary complaints, and laid the foundation of that wide-spread fame which he acquired by his great success in the treatment of phthisis. I have been told Dr. Sheldon imputed his own recovery mainly to horseback

*Video my paper "Observations on the Case of Rev
Lorenson D.D. late Prof of Yale College" for
mention of Dr Sheldon.*

exercise. He was in old age a perfect gentleman—cheerful in temper, active in habits, and a great favorite among his professional brethren.

Another member of the same society was Dr. Lemuel Hopkins. He was a pupil of Dr. Jared Potter, and subsequently of Dr. Bird of Litchfield, and although he became eminent as a physician, he was neither contaminated by the speculations of one master or deluded by the vicious habits of the other. In 1784 he removed to Hartford, and was held in high estimation; a wit among the poets, and a poet among the wits of the day; social in his habits—plain in his dress—and generally beloved by all who were his patients or his associates. He died in the year 1804, aged 54—and many persons now living remember him well, and speak of him with great respect; but although he died in the midst of his usefulness, he is uniformly referred to as "old Dr. Hopkins."

There was another member of the same society who richly deserves our passing notice. Dr. Samuel Woodward of Torrington, was extensively known and respected as a physician. He was a man of vigorous constitution, active habits, and respectable acquirements. Like the other physicians of Litchfield county, he was frequently engaged in public life, and is entitled to the gratitude of the profession for the manner in which his children were educated for usefulness. His eldest son was, thirty years ago, an active and useful member of the Connecticut Medical Society, whose spirited exertions in establishing the Retreat for the Insane, led to his transfer to the Worcester Asylum, where he established a claim to the high rank which had been assigned him by his early associates. His brother Henry lived and died at Middletown, greatly respected as a physician, and ardently beloved by a large circle of friends. He died in early life, and only one remains to remind us of the excellent family of Dr. Woodward of Torrington. I ought perhaps to say, that the three brothers to whom I have referred, were at different periods distinguished members of the Connecticut Legislature.

There is only one fact more, to which I will at this time refer, in connection with the Litchfield County Society. On the last day of February, 1788, its members assembled at Sharon, and

Dr. James Potter was the orator of the day, and the subject was "the rise and progress of physic in America." The style of his address was in accordance with the 4th of July orations of that early period, and indicates the taste and talents of the writer, and temper of his audience. "The great Parent of mankind—the beneficent Founder of the universe—the infinitely indulgent and all glorious Benefactor of the intellectual economy, out of the overflowing of his exuberant and divine goodness hath been pleased again to bring this society together." In the progress of his address the doctor alludes to the languor and prostration of spirits, and to his not being accustomed to public speaking—"the rules of my rhetoric having been deduced from the conversation of nurses, and the oratory of my life the groans of the sick," were his apology for what he termed his "unoratorical composition."

The medical society of New Haven was formed in the year 1784. The following account of its first organization is derived from its own records:—"We, the medical practitioners of the county of New Haven, convened in consequence of an invitation in the Connecticut Journal, from the faculty of the town of New Haven, on this 5th day of January, 1784; having made choice of Col. Leverett Hubbard, chairman, and Dr. Samuel Darling, secretary, do resolve ourselves into a society, to be called and known by the name of the Medical Society of New Haven County, pledging our honor to each other for the strict observance of all such regulations as may be adopted by the majority of said society, formed for the following purposes, viz :

"1st. To lay a proper foundation for that unanimity and friendship which are essential to the dignity and usefulness of the profession.

"2nd. To make accurate observations on the air, seasons, climates, and the various diseases incident to the inhabitants of the county; with the mode of treatment and event in all similar cases.

"3d. For the communication of any discoveries in physic, surgery, botany or chemistry.

"4th. For the purpose of correspondence with the several medical societies in this and the neighboring states, and in Europe.

"5th. For uniting with the several medical societies in this

and the adjacent states, and to make application to the Legislature, praying them to adopt such measures for the future regulation of our salutary art, as shall effectually support merit, and discountenance ignorance and presumption.

— *Voted*, That Messrs. Leverett Hubbard, Eneas Monson, Jared Potter, Ebenezer Beardsley, Samuel Mather and Samuel Darling, be a committee to form further regulations to be laid before the next meeting."

At a subsequent meeting, that committee reported. The following is an abstract of the report, which was adopted :

"1. The time of meeting, once in three months.

"2. That in all cases where counsel is requisite, we will be ready to assist each other in consultation without reserve.

"3. That if any physician or surgeon, residing within this county, shall neglect or refuse, after six months, to become a member of this society, the members will utterly refuse to have any connection with him as a practitioner, unless he can give a satisfactory reason for his neglect to the society.

"4. Every person who had been in practice less than a year, must submit to an examination before admission to the society.

"5. The committee of correspondence to be a committee of examination. A certificate of examination, when presented, shall entitle to membership of the society.

"6. Provided for the officers—president, vice president, secretary, etc."

In May, 1791, the members of this society applied to the General Assembly for an act of incorporation. "Your honors' petitioners do not presume to ask for any powers, privileges, exemptions or immunities, but they humbly pray that your honors will take their case into your wise consideration, and decree that your petitioners shall be formed into a body corporate and politic, by the name of the Medical Society of New Haven, for the purpose of collecting and preserving a collection of useful papers relative to the practice of medicine."

This humble prayer was presented to the General Assembly in May, 1791, and granted in the lower house, with liberty to bring in a bill—but the council of that day were opposed to all hasty legislation, and referred the subject to the General Assembly which was to be held at New Haven in October.

The signatures to this petition are worthy of our passing notice. I have transcribed them in the order which appears in the records of the Secretary of State.

Æneas Monson,	Levi Ives,	Jared Potter,
James Potter,	Theodore Wadsworth,	John Spalding,
Sam'l Mather,	Amos Hull,	Hercules Beardsley,
Æneas Monson, jr.,	Elnathan Beach,	

The more prominent members of the New Haven Medical Society, were Dr. Hubbard, Dr. Monson, Drs. James and Jared Potter, and Drs. Ebenezer Beardsley. For a sketch of the character of the two first, I am indebted to the kindness of Dr. Ives. "Dr. Leverett Hubbard, commonly called Col. Hubbard, was prompt, bold and efficient in his practice, prepossessing in address, and cheerful in his disposition. He was the son of Judge Hubbard, who was also an able physician, much respected and beloved by the colonists of Connecticut, and a man of strict integrity and great decision of character. Col. Hubbard was of medium size, formed for activity, and capable of great endurance of labor. His connections and friends gave him great influence in society, and for many years the almost absolute control of the practice in this county, and to a considerable extent in the adjacent ones. Such power would tempt him at times to be overbearing, of which he was accused—yet probably he was less so than most physicians. As an apology for those physicians who manifested this spirit, it may be said that it was the fashion of the times. It was not unusual at this period, for such men as Elliot, Gale, Bird, and Hurlburt, when called to prescribe for the patient of another physician, on their first introduction, to sweep from the table into the fireplace all the medicines of his brother practitioner, and then, like Paracelsus, magnify his own powers as supernatural. Dr. Hubbard died at the age of 72, in the year 1794, in the city of Hartford, whither he had gone on account of ill health."

* Dr. Æneas Monson was born the 24th of June, 1734. His father, Benjamin Monson, who was a respectable mechanic, was a man of wit and frequently taught school. Dr. Monson graduated at Yale College at the age of 19, in the year 1753—he was a serious, sober and pious man, notwithstanding his peculiar talent for wit—he rarely laughed, and from his appear-

ance and the expression of his face, a stranger would think him austere—his first profession was that of divinity, which the failure of his health obliged him to leave, as close application to study, and the want of exercise, produced dyspepsia and hypochondria. Dr. Monson was the second president of the State Medical Society, and was repeatedly chosen to fill that honorable station. In the year 1813, he was appointed by the corporation of Yale College, Professor of Materia Medica, in the medical department of that institution, but though he accepted the appointment, on account of his advanced age, being over 70 years old, he never entered upon the duties of his office. His natural abilities, varied information, great industry, a ready pen, caustic and yet kindly humor, professional knowledge acquired under great difficulties, and dispensed with unbounded generosity, a probity that never wavered, and a benevolence that knew no limits, constitute the features of a character to be admired as well as loved—admiration and love are justly due to the memory of Dr. Monson."

"Through his long career of almost a century, when he had lived until no one remaining in his native city, had survived so long, he found religion the staff of his age, as it had been the guide of his youth. His habitual trust in God through Christ, brightened as he advanced into the full glow of assured hope, and although his last days were distressed by bodily suffering, his sun set with unclouded splendor, the cheering harbinger of a glorious morning. He died June 10th, 1826."

Dr. James Potter was a prominent member of the New Haven Medical Society. When the Litchfield County Society met at North Canaan, he was there and took an active part in its proceedings; and when the physicians of New Haven county were assembled for professional improvement, he was there also; he took an active part in the measures which resulted in the establishment of the Connecticut Medical Society, and was chosen its president after the resignation of Dr. Monson. Dr. Potter was a social member of the profession—frequently a member of the State Legislature—he was also an eminent practitioner on the western borders of the State.

Jared Potter resided at Wallingford, was one of the most distinguished physicians in the State, and the teacher from

whom many eminent members of our profession received instruction. He was a speculating theologian, and his speculations were of an infidel character; and it is said that his pupils, whatever progress they made in medical studies, generally left Dr. Potter's office with minds tinged with skeptical notions. In 1775 he was chosen surgeon of the first regiment of Connecticut forces, from whence it may be inferred that he was distinguished as a surgeon as well as physician. His memory at this time is more associated with one of his own favorite remedies. Potter's powder has been for fifty years a popular remedy with the physicians of Connecticut, but as employed in former days, it contained charcoal as well as the three other ingredients—camphor, ammonia, and chalk. By this combination he acquired the same reputation which adheres, all the world over, to the combination of Dr. Dover.

Of Dr. Ebenezer Beardsley, I have learned that he removed from Waterbury to New Haven, where he established an apothecary's shop, and that he soon afterwards became one of the most popular physicians of the city.

Dr. Morson was pleased to relate that having conducted a case of pulmonary disease to a favorable result, the nurse came to him with her congratulations—"You and I, with the help of Divine Providence, have done as well as Dr. Beardsley."

Dr. Todd, our former associate, once the president of this society, and for many years the eminent superintendent of the Retreat for the Insane, was a pupil of Dr. Beardsley.

STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY.

At length, the General Assembly became satisfied of the importance of establishing a State Medical Society, on the ground that it would subserve the interest of the healing art and be productive of general utility.

They at last discovered that well regulated medical societies have been found to contribute to the diffusion of true science, and particularly the knowledge of the healing art: Therefore

Be it enacted by the Governor and Council, and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, That there be a

Medical Society formed within this State to consist of the following persons, viz :

James Potter, New Fairfield,	Daniel Sheldon, Litchfield,
Levrett Hubbard, New Haven,	Phineas Miller, Norwalk,
Charles Phelps, Stonington,	James Scovill,
Joshua Porter, Salisbury,	Sam'l Woodward, Torrington,
Amos Mead, Fairfield Co.,	Ichabod Warner, Bolton,
Cha's Mather, E. Windsor,	Jeremiah West, Tolland,
Josiah Hart, Berlin,	David Sutton, Hebron,
Elihu Tuder, E. Windsor,	Elisha Lord, Pomfret,
Timothy Rogers,	John Osborne, Middletown,
Joseph Baker, Brooklyn,	Asa Hamilton, Somers,
John R. Watrous, Colchester,	Theophilus Rogers, Norwich,
Seth Bird, Litchfield,	Lemuel Hopkins, Hartford,
Miner Grant, Stafford,	Philemon Tracy, Norwich,
Simon Woodcott, New London,	Mason F. Cogswell, Hartford,
Eliakim Fish, Hartford,	Thaddeus Betts, Norwalk,
Sam'l Flagg, E. Hartford,	Thomas Coit, New London,
Enoch Monson, New Haven,	Joshua Dowter, Preston,
Jared Potter, Wallingford,	Erastus Beach, N. Haven Co.,
John Lester, Fairfield Co.,	John Turner, Norwich,
David Rogers, Fairfield Co.,	John Spalding, New Haven,
Philip Turner, Norwich,	Levi Ives, New Haven,
Elisha Perkins, Plainfield,	James Clarke, Fairfield Co.,
Isaac Knight, Plainfield,	Alligeance Waldo, Pomfret,
John Clark, Lebanon,	

who shall have liberty to meet together in their respective counties on the fourth Tuesday of September, and when so met shall have authority to determine the qualifications and admission of their own members, and to make choice of a chairman and clerk to conduct the affairs of such meetings—and the meeting thus organized is directed to choose by ballot from amongst themselves five members from each county, except Middlesex and Tolland, and three for each of these counties, to compose a convention of said society, the members of which are hereby authorized by ballot to choose a president, vice president, treasurer and secretary, and such other officers as they may think proper, and the convention thus formed, shall be known by the name of the President and Fellows of the Connecticut

Medical Society, and shall hold their offices for the term of one year, and shall have full power to make by-laws to promote the ends of said society—may expel members for any misdemeanors—may appoint examining committees in the several counties, who shall examine such candidates as may offer themselves for examination; and license such as shall be found qualified to practice physic and surgery; and receive them on their desire as members of said society in their respective counties—to confer honorary degrees on such of the faculty as they may from time to time find of distinguished merit; and to purchase and hold for the benefit of said society, property not exceeding \$16,667 dollars—may have a common seal, and may sue and be sued as other bodies corporate may, by law. And it shall be the duty of the several members of the society, according to their ability, to communicate useful information to each other, in their respective county meetings, and such meetings shall, from time to time, transmit to the convention, such curious cases and observations as may come to their knowledge, and it shall be the duty of the convention, to cause to be published such extraordinary cases, and such observations on the state of the air, and on epidemical and other disorders as they may think proper.

If found inadequate or inconvenient, the Legislature provided that the charter of the medical society might be amended or repealed. And in a short time this society applied for an amendment. Each county taxed its own members, appointed its own treasurer, and directed the expenditures of its own funds. There was nothing for the State Treasurer to do, and no means of acquiring the \$16,667 which, by the act of incorporation, he was authorized to possess on behalf of the general society. Its position was embarrassing, till by the General Assembly it was further enacted, that the conventions at their annual meetings might levy a tax on all the members of the society, which tax the clerks of the several counties were authorized to collect. A few years later, it became necessary to obtain another alteration—authorizing the treasurer to collect from the several clerks whatever sum they received from the members of their several counties. The next act, in addition, provides that no person entering upon the practice of physic or

surgery in this State, unless he has been duly licensed by some medical society or college of physicians, shall take benefit of laws for recovery of his fees. This provision of the charter caused some dissatisfaction, and its repeal was urgently demanded, and finally granted a few years since.

Such was the original charter of this society. I have transcribed the names of its founders as a mark of respect to their memory. Their professional labors are ended—not one remains to tell us how they strove to improve the character, and raise the standard of our profession—to diffuse medical knowledge, and to resist the unblushing assaults of ignorance and pretension. They are not here, but we have the comforting assurance that they did not labor in vain; and that the medical skill of our State has been greatly extended—that the mental culture of our physicians is vastly more thorough, and that their moral character is essentially improved since the establishment of this society. On this occasion it may be well to inquire if we have been faithful to our trust. Our charter requires that we shall communicate useful information to each other, and provides for the publication of such extraordinary cases, and such observations on the state of the air, and on epidemical disorders as the convention shall think proper.

ERRATA.

Page 414, line 21st. for Welch read Hewk.

Page 713, line 22nd. for Russell read Russell.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SIXTIETH ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

Connecticut State Medical Society

MAY, 1852.

WITH A LIST OF MEMBERS.



HARTFORD:

PRESS OF CASE, TIFFANY AND COMPANY.

1852.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

RUFUS BLAKEMAN, M. D., PRESIDENT.
RICHARD WARNER, M. D., VICE PRESIDENT.
GEORGE O. SUMNER, M. D., TREASURER.
JOSIAH G. BECKWITH, M. D., SECRETARY.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Committee of Examination,

RUFUS BLAKEMAN, M. D., *ex officio*.
BENJAMIN WELCH, M. D.
ASHBEL WOODWARD, M. D.
P. W. ELLSWORTH, M. D.
H. N. BENNETT, M. D.
J. G. BECKWITH, M. D.

Committee to nominate Physicians to the Rotund for the Insane.

RUFUS BLAKEMAN, M. D.
WILLIAM H. COGSWELL, M. D.
ALVAN TALCOTT, M. D.
ARCHIBALD WELCH, M. D.
S. T. SALISBURY, M. D.

Committee to nominate Professors in Medical Institutions of Yale College.

JOSIAH G. BECKWITH, M. D.
E. H. BISHOP, M. D.
JUSTIN HAMMOND, M. D.
R. M. FOWLER, M. D.
ROBERT HUBBARD, M. D.

The Annual Convention of the President and Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society, was held at the Medical College in New Haven, May 12, 1852.

THE Convention was called to order by the President, when the certificates of the election of Fellows were presented by the Secretary, and referred to a Committee consisting of Drs. A. Welch, Talbot, Darby, Preston, Whitcomb, Blackburn, Salisbury and Jarvis, who reported the following list of

FELLOWS.

HARTFORD COUNTY.

Archibald Welch, M. D.
C. M. Heywood, M. D.
M. W. Wilson, M. D.
G. A. Hooley, M. D.
J. C. Jackson, M. D.

NEW HAVEN COUNTY.

Elie Tves, M. D.
Alvan Talbot, M. D.
Barnes Goodell, M. D.
Edward A. Park, M. D.
S. G. Hubbard, M. D.

NEW LONDON COUNTY.

W. Hooker, M. D.
Jno. D. Ford, M. D.
*Alfred Holmes, M. D.
Joseph Darby, M. D.
Nath. Smith, M. D.

WINDHAM COUNTY.

John P. B. Jr., M. D.
Samuel Dickinson, M. D.
*Horace Rogers, M. D.
J. B. Whitcomb, M. D.
Joseph Palmer, M. D.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY.

Geo. Blackburn, M. D.
H. S. Benson, M. D.
Robert Hubbard, M. D.
Justin Sherwood, M. D.
Samuel Beach, M. D.

LEITCHFIELD COUNTY.

Samuel T. Salisbury, M. D.
D. E. Bestwick, M. D.
Samuel Cofin, Jr., M. D.
O. Brown, M. D.
Jno. H. Welch, M. D.

TOLLAND COUNTY.

Gilbert H. Preston, M. D.
Abner J. White, M. D.
*C. A. Woodman, M. D.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY.

George O. Jarvis, M. D.
S. W. Turner, M. D.
*Asa H. King, M. D.

On motion of Dr. Jarvis,

Dr. Synes, of Alabama, was invited to a seat in the Convention.

On motion of Dr. W. Hosker,

Dr. J. S. Moore, of St. Louis, was invited to a seat in the Convention.

The following gentlemen were then elected officers of the Society for the ensuing year, viz.

RUFUS BLAKEMAN, M. D., PRESIDENT.

RICHARD WARNER, M. D., VICE PRESIDENT.

GEORGE O. SUMNER, M. D., TREASURER.

JOSIAH G. BECKWITH, M. D., SECRETARY.

The election of members of the Standing Committees to fill vacancies, was for the present suspended.

Drs. Goodsell, Brownell, Smith, Preston, Hill, Sherwood, Brown, and Turner, were appointed a Committee on unfinished business.

Voted, That a Committee be appointed to take into consideration the registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages—and make a report to the Convention after adjournment this morning.

Drs. Wilson, Jun., H. Welch, Bosch, Hubbard and W. W. Welch, were appointed said Committee.

Dr. Goodsell, from the Committee on Unfinished Business, reported that there was no other business unfinished than the reports of the Committees on Surgery, Practice of Medicine, Maternal Medicine, and Medical Ethics.

Report accepted.

The Treasurer's report was then presented, read and referred to a Committee consisting of Drs. Blakeman, Park, Ford, White, Palmer, J. H. Welch and Jarvis, to audit and report thereon.

Drs. H. N. Bennett, Brownell, Talcott, Smith, Preston, Whitcomb, Cullen and Turner were appointed a Committee on Debentures.

The Convention then, on motion, proceeded to fill the vacancies in the Standing Committees, when on balloting it was found that

H. N. Bennett, M. D., and J. G. Beckwith, M. D., were elected to fill the vacancies in the Committee of Examination.

Archibald Welch, M. D., and Samuel T. Salisbury, M. D., to fill the vacancies in the Committee to nominate Physicians to the Retreat, and Alvan Talcott, M. D., to fill a vacancy in said Committee occasioned by the resignation of J. G. Beckwith, M. D.

R. M. Fowler, M. D., and Robert Hubbard, M. D., to fill the vacancies in the Committee to nominate Professors in the Medical Institution of Yale College.

On motion, a Committee consisting of Drs. A. Welch, Talcott and Jarvis, was appointed to nominate Delegates to the American Medical Association, to be held on the first Tuesday in May, 1853.

Dr. J. R. Welch then exhibited a surgical apparatus or splint for the examination of the members of the Convention.

Drs. Talcott, Salisbury and M. W. Wilson were appointed a Committee to examine said splint, and report to the Convention.

A communication was received by the Convention from Fairfield County Medical Society in reference to several members of said Society, whom the Society had denounced for quackery, having been notoriously in the practice of Homoeopathy.

On motion of Dr. Wilson,

The subject was referred to a Committee of three to inquire into the facts, and ascertain whether they are deemed worthy of expulsion, and if so, to report a preamble and resolution, designating the offense.

Adjourned to four and a half o'clock, P. M.

Five and a half o'clock, P. M.

Society met pursuant to adjournment.

When the subject of the Fairfield County proceedings was resumed and Dr. G. O. Sargent moved to second by referring to said Committee without instructions.

Amendment carried. And Drs. W. Hooker, Wilson and Goodell were appointed a Committee to report to-morrow morning.

Drs. S. G. Hubbard, Moody, Dartey, Emmons, Whitcomb, R. Hubbard, Crafts and Jarvis were appointed a Committee on Graduates Students.

Drs. Ives, A. Welch, Hooker, White, Palmer, Beach and Tarnate were appointed a Committee on Honorary Degrees and Honorary Members.

Drs. Talcott, J. R. Welch and Sherwood were appointed a Committee to nominate Dissertator for the next Convention.

Dr. P. A. Jewett, by indisposition, having been prevented from preparing the dissertation for the present Convention, was accused for his delinquency, but pledged a Dissertation for the next Convention—pledge accepted.

P. A. Jewett, from the Standing Committee on Examination, pre-

sent a report of the proceedings, which was read and ordered to be published with the proceedings. (See Appendix A.)

Dr. W. Hooker then offered a form of certificate of study, to be given by Medical instructors, as evidence of study, accompanied by a resolution which was adopted by the Convention.

Resolved, That the following certificate of studies be required of all Candidates for examination—for a degree.

I hereby certify that _____ has pursued
the Study of Medicine with me for _____ to
and that he recited regularly on (here insert the branches
pursued) during the above mentioned time.

Physicum.

Dr. Wilson from the Committee on Registration, made a report of a bill similar to the one proposed to the Legislature last year, accompanied with the following resolution, viz,

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to confer with the Legislature, and petition them for a law on registration, similar to the one which failed of becoming a law, by the non-concurrence of action between the Senate and House of Representatives in 1851.

The Committee on Graduates Students reported that the following gentlemen were elected in the following counties, viz.

Hartford county,	Chas. E. Sanford.
New Haven county,	Robert B. Hays.
Litchfield county,	Paul Skiff.
New London county,	Charles E. Dyer.
Tolland county,	Edwin G. Sumner.
Middlesex county,	M. E. Winchell.

The Committee recommended Erasmus B. Bills and William H. Larned to fill vacancies from Fairfield and Windham Counties.

The Committee also reported the following resolution.

Resolved, That we consider the present system of affording gratuitous instruction to students, by lectures or otherwise, as impolitic and injurious to the prosperity of the Medical Institution of Yale College, and the best interests of the Profession generally, and also to the students themselves, and we recommend the Convention to petition the Legislature for a repeal of so much of the charter as requires it.

On motion laid on the table.

Dr. Blackman from the Committee to whom was referred the Treasurer's report, made a report as follows.

The Committee appointed to audit the Treasurer's account, report that they have examined the same, and find it to be correct.

They also submit the following resolutions.

Resolved, That those claims standing against clerks for taxes due from their respective counties, which are claimed in the report of the Treasurer as not collectible, be shelved.

Resolved, That in the opinion of the Convention, the prompt collection of taxes in future by the clerks is the only sure means of preventing a recurrence of similar delinquencies.

Resolved, That the clerks be required to comply with this By-Law, which makes it their duty to report delinquents to the Convention, and the amount due from each respectively, stating in such report also what notice he has given each delinquent of his indebtedness to the Society, and that the same be read in open Convention.

Report accepted and Committee discharged.

Abstract of Treasurer's Report.—Financial Summary.

Cash in Treasury,	\$181.93½
Total due from Clerks,	\$1471.46½
Deduct say one-half for bad debts, abatements, commissions, &c., losses,	735.53
	<hr/> \$917.48½
The Society owes for outstanding delinquencies,	363.02½
	<hr/> \$554.46
Leaves balance in favor of Society of	\$363.02½
The delinquencies issued May, 1853, amounted to	\$293.57½
Amount of Delinquencies redeemed during the year is by Clerks,	\$129.02½
By Treasurer,	35.02½
	<hr/> \$164.05
Excess of amount issued,	\$129.02½

Dr. Talcott from the Committee on Dr. Welch's report,

That the apparatus was well entitled to the confidence of the Profession, and a very ingenious and useful fracture instrument.

Report accepted unanimously, and Committee discharged.

Adjourned to eight o'clock, A. M.

Thursday, eight o'clock, A. M.

Dr. W. Hooker, Chairman of the Committee on the Fairfield County resolution, read a report which was accepted, and ordered to be printed, and the recommendations contained in it were unanimously adopted.

On motion of Dr. Beach,

One thousand copies were ordered to be printed for the use of the members of the Convention, and for distribution. (See Appendix, B.)

Dr. Talcott, from the Committee to nominate a Disserter for the next Convention, reported the name of Samuel Beach, M. D., of Bridgeport: report accepted and Dr. Beach was elected.

Dr. E. H. Bishop, from the Standing Committee to nominate Professors to the Medical Institution of Yale College, made a report, that said Committee had been called together to nominate a Professor in said College to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Dr. Henry Bronson; that the Committee had nominated Worthington Hooker, M. D., of Norwich, and that Dr. Hooker had accepted the appointment—report accepted and ordered to be printed with proceedings. (See Appendix C.)

Dr. Bennett, from the Committee on Debentures, made a report which was accepted and the debentures were ordered to be paid.

Dr. Ives, from the Committee on Honorary Degrees and Honorary Members, made a report recommending the name of Dr. William B. Nash, of Bridgeport, for the degree of Doctor of Medicine, and J. Marian Syme, M. D., of Alabama, and John Watson, M. D., of New York, for Honorary Membership—report accepted, and they were found on balloting to be unanimously elected.

And Dr. Nash was recommended to the President and Fellows of Yale College for the Honorary Degree of M. D., and Drs. Syme and Watson were added to the list of Honorary Members. The Secretary was instructed to notify them of their election.

On motion of Dr. Hooker,

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to collect facts in relation to the epidemics of the present year in this State, and report to the next Annual Convention, in order that this Society may cooperate with the American Medical Association in its systematic efforts to obtain information in relation to the epidemics of the whole country.

The Committee appointed to report to this Convention what improvements had been made in Materia Medica for the last fifty years, on being called upon to report, were excused on account of the indisposition of the Chairman and other causes, and were on motion continued and requested to make a report to the Convention in 1853. The Committee consisted of Drs. Eli Ives, M. D., Charles Woodworth, M. D., and D. A. Tyler, M. D.

The Committee on Surgery consisting of P. A. Jewett, M. D., P. W. Ellsworth, M. D., and W. H. Cogswell, M. D., were also excused for the present year from making their report.

And appointed to report to the next Convention.

Dr. Jewett having resigned his appointment on said Committee, Jonathan Knight, M. D., was added to the Committee as Chairman, in motion of Dr. Jewett.

Resolved, That a tax of one dollar and fifty cents be laid on each member of the Society, payable on and after first of June next.

The Committee on Practice of Medicine appointed to report to this Convention under the same resolution, consisting of George Sumner, M. D., Worthington Hooker, M. D., and Nathan B. Ives, M. D., were also for reasons excused from the performance of the duties assigned them, and re-appointed to discharge the duties of their appointment to the next Annual Convention.

Dr. Archibald Welch and Dr. J. G. Blockwith, severally made reports on Medical Ethics, which were read and ordered to be published with the proceedings of the Convention. (See Appendix D and E.)

Dr. A. Welch from the Committee appointed to report the names of Delegates to the American Medical Association for the meeting in New York in 1853, reported the names of Samuel B. Bernofield, M. D., Samuel Bosch, M. D., Benjamin Welch, M. D., and George O. Jarvis, M. D.—report accepted and they were appointed.

Charles Hooker, M. D., Archibald Welch, M. D., and Josiah G.

Beckwith, M. D., were appointed a Committee to collect statistics in relation to the Epidemics of the present year.

On motion of Dr. A. Welch it was resolved that the "report of the Committee on Medical Education, by Warhington Hooker, M. D.," contained in the "Transactions of the American Medical Association," be published with the proceedings of this Convention.

X Dr. Cogswell offered a resolution of instruction to the several county societies, to examine the subject for the purpose of ascertaining whether members of the Society are interested in the manufacture, vending, using or recommending any nostrums or Quack Medicines; recommending that the By-Laws in relation to such offenders, be enforced, and that they report their action to the next Convention—resolution adopted.

Dr. Hooker offered a resolution for appointing a Committee to bring the subject of forged certificates, or the use of the names of individuals without their consent, in recommending nostrums and quack medicines, before the Legislature.

Drs. Knight and Goodsell were appointed said Committee.

Drs. Wilson, Jewett and S. G. Hubbard were appointed a Committee to procure the enactment by the present legislature of a Registration law, similar to the one proposed to the last legislature.

The Convention then adjourned *sine die*.

Attest,

JOSIAH G. BECKWITH, *Secretary*.

MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

*FELIX PASCALES,	New York.
JAMES JACKSON,	Boston, Mass.
JOHN C. WARREN,	Boston, Mass.
*SAMUEL L. MITCHELL,	New York.
*DAVID BOSACK,	New York.
*WRIGHT FOST,	New York.
BENJAMIN SILLMAN,	New Haven.
*GEORGE MELLEAN,	Philadelphia, Pa.
*JOHN MACKIE,	Providence, R. I.
*CHARLES ELDERIDGE,	East Greenwich, R. I.
THEODORE BOMEYN BECK,	Albany, N. Y.
*JAMES THATCHER,	Plymouth, Mass.
EDWARD DELAFIELD,	New York.
JOHN DELAMATER,	Cleveland, Ohio.
*WILLIAM P. DEWEES,	Philadelphia, Pa.
*JOSEPH WHITE,	Cherry Valley, N. Y.
JACOB BIGELOW,	Boston, Mass.
WALTER CHANNING,	Boston, Mass.
*PHILIP SING PHYSIC,	Philadelphia, Pa.
*LEWIS BEERMAN,	U. S. Navy.
DANIEL DEAKE,	Cincinnati, Ohio.
HENRY MITCHELL,	Norwich, N. Y.
NATHAN KYNO SMITH,	Baltimore, Md.
VALENTINE MOTT,	New York.
*SAMUEL WHITE,	Hudson, N. Y.
REUBEN D. MUSSEY,	Cincinnati, Ohio.
WILLIAM TULLY,	New Haven.
RICHMOND BROWNELL,	Providence, R. I.
WILLIAM BEAUMONT,	St. Louis, Mo.
SAMUEL HENRY DICKSON,	Charleston, S. C.
*SAMUEL B. WOODWARD,	Northampton, Mass.
*JOHN STEARNS,	New York.
STEPHEN W. WILLIAMS,	Deerfield, Mass.
*HENRY GREEN,	Albany, N. Y.
*GEORGE FROST,	Springfield, Mass.
WILLARD PARKER,	New York.
BENAJAH TURNER,	U. S. Navy.
ALDEN MARCH,	Albany, N. Y.
*AMOS TWITCHELL,	Worcester, N. H.
CHARLES A. LEE,	New York.
DAVID S. C. H. SMITH,	Providence, R. I.
JAMES M. SMITH,	Springfield, Mass.
HENRY D. BULKLEY,	New York.
J. MARION SYMS,	Montgomery, Ala.
JOHN WATSON,	New York City.

ORDINARY MEMBERS.

The names of those Members who are exempt from taxation by age, are in italics; the names of those who have been Presidents of the Society, are in capitals.

MARYFORD COUNTY.

N. H. BYINGTON, M. D., Chairman.

J. C. JACKSON, M. D., Clerk.

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|--|--|
| <p>HARTFORD, GEORGE SUMNER,
Henry Holmes, Samuel B. Dorrick,
George H. Hawley, Charles W. East-
well, David Craig, F. W. Chiswick,
Annalia Rogers, E. S. Hart, John
S. Bates, H. A. Grant, J. C. Jack-
son, A. W. Barrows, Thomas Mier,
M. W. Wilson, A SCHIELE D
WELCH, William Thomas, Henry
Gudley, Chas. P. Kuhn, John H. With.</p> <p><i>West Hartford, Edward Tracy.</i>
Avon, Alfred Kellogg.
Hart, E. Douchette, Jr.
New Britain, Samuel Hart, Kenneth
Hawley, E. D. Babcock.
Bloomfield.
Barnett, Joseph W. Camp, John S.
Moody.
Bromfield, William Elton, M.
Canton, Benjamin Kason.
Canaan, Samuel H. Tidney.
East Hartford, Ed. Hall, Seth L.
Child, Charles M. Brewster.
East Windsor, Henry Weston.
Westbrook, Marvin L. Fisk.
Hartford Post, Joseph Olinde.
Essex, J. P. Converse, A. L. Spald-
ing.
Thompsonville, J. Bailey Bond.</p> | <p>Farmington, Asahel Thompson,
Clemency Boon.
Meriden, G. A. Moody.
Canaanville, William H. Sage.
Guilfordtown, Ralph Carter, Clinton
Dunn.
Rock Glenbury, V. E. Hammond,
Lester J. Andrus, Henry Gilbert.
Killing, Helen Stokings.
Glaston, John Case, Jas. P. Jewell,
Earl Gandy, Charles Hunter.
West Glaston, James D. Wilson.
Middletown, W. C. Williams, W. Scott.
Rocky Hill, Ephraim Bulling.
Newtown, Edmund A. White.
Fairfield, Geo. W. Sanford, Charles
W. Knight.
Somersworth, Julius S. Barnes, N. H.
Dyngton, Frederick A. Hart.
South Windsor, Harvey C. Gillett,
Sidney Rockwell, William Wood.
Storrs, Samuel B. Love, Anna Ri-
ngs.
Wethersfield, E. F. Cooke, A. S.
Warner, A. S. Fox.
Windsor, William S. Purvis, Thom-
as Hill, Albert Morrison.
Hudson Lock, Samuel W. Skinner.
Pigeonrock, David B. Griggs.</p> |
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NEW HAVEN COUNTY.

ISAAC GOOSELL, M. D., Chairman.

S. G. HENRICH, M. D., Clerk.

NEW HAVEN, Eli Ives, T. P. Root,
Jonathan Knight, Oswald Pondrus,
A. S. Mason, Charles Root, H.
B. Porter, Nathan B. Ives, E. H.
Rober, E. D. North, A. C. Baskin,
L. A. Thomas, Levi Ives, Flay A.
Jensen, D. L. Fuggett, George O.
Jensen, D. A. Tyler, Henry Rosen-
son, E. A. Park, N. W. Taylor, Jr.,
A. Moody, W. J. Whitney, S. G.
Haddock, H. W. E. Matthews, Am-
herst, W. J. Walling, C. M.
Lindley.
WATERVILLE, Susan Loyd.
FAIR HAVEN, C. S. Thompson, J. H.
Bocher, W. M. Ware, Lyons Par-
ley.
TERRACE, Ann C. Woodward.
BRANTFORD, Wilmoughby L. Loy.
CHESHAM, A. J. Digges, Nelson
Baker.
DUNSTON, H. A. Carrington.
JESSICA, Samuel P. Church.
BIRMINGHAM, Andrew Goodley, T.
Dolan.

BUMPHREYSVILLE, Alvin Stoddard,
Sheldon C. Johnson, Joshua Ken-
dall, Thomas Stoddard.
EAST HAVEN, Rida Abraham.
GENTLEMAN, Joel Canfield, Alvin Tal-
cott.
MASSACHUSETTS, Raymond Wild.
MERRIMAN, Gustav Barlow.
WATERVILLE, H. B. Cullen, Edward
W. Black.
FALMOUTH, C. B. McFarley.
MIDDLETOWN.
MILFORD, Hall Allen, L. N. Dandley.
NORWICH, J. D. Meier, Timothy
Landon.
NORTH BRANTFORD, Sheldon Goodley.
SOUTH BRANTFORD, A. B. Barrin.
SOUTH BRANTFORD, N. C. Ballou.
WATERVILLE, B. T. B. Harrison, S.
W. Clark.
WATERVILLE, M. C. Leavensworth, G.
L. Hunt, John Deane, George E.
Dekker, H. H. Perkins, George
Baker.
WATERVILLE, Anne Goodell, Andrew
Cullen.

NEW LONDON COUNTY.

WORTHINGTON BOOKER, M. D., Chairman.

SHERMAN, M. D., Clerk.

NEW LONDON, Dyer T. Brinsford, Na-
thaniel S. Perkins, James Morgan,
Isaac O. Foster, Wm. W. Mace,
Ben Smith, C. C. Cook, D. P. Foun-
tain, Albert Viner, Albert Holman,
Robert A. Manswring, Eliza A.
Hewitt, Frank D. Brinsford.
NORWICH, Richard P. Tracy, Wm.
Jenna Baker, Eliza Byer, Jr., El-
isha Primery, Jonathan W. Brooks,
Abel B. Hall, John D. Ford, Jer-
maine King, Edwin Bentley, Benja-
min S. Best, John P. Fuller, Alonzo
Fuller, Horace Thurman, Henry W.
Lusk.
BOZEMAN, Samuel Johnson.
COLCHESTER, Elsie W. Parsons,
Frederick Morgan.
EAST LEXY, John L. Smith, Anna F.
Perkins.
FRANKLIN, John Woodward.
GREENWICH.
JEWETT CITY.

GAZON, Joseph Durbin.
PORTERSVILLE, Eliot F. Cook.
NORWICH, A. T. Douglas.
LEXINGTON, Joseph Constock, Emma G.
Good, Richard P. Green.
LEXINGTON.
Gulf Ferry, Rufus W. Marchmont.
LEXINGTON, Fred Smith.
LEXINGTON, Richard Noyes, John Noyes.
NORTH LEXY, Wm. W. J. Warren.
MORRISTON, Ephraim Johnson, Samuel
E. Hayward.
GREENVILLE, Joseph E. Gay, John C.
Baker.
NORTH BRANTFORD, Thomas P. War-
den, Alvin Gay.
FALMOUTH, Jerry Dwyer, Eliza B.
Dwyer.
PORTERSVILLE, H. W. Cook.
SALAM.
STONINGTON, Wm. Noyes, George E.
Palmer, Wm. Hyde, Jr.
Noyes, Mason Manning.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY.

SAMUEL S. NOYES, M. D., Chairman.

SAMUEL BRACE, M. D., Clerk.

FAIRFIELD, Joseph T. Denison, S. P.
 T. R. Ten Brook.
 GREENFIELD, Rufus Dickinson.
 NORTHPORT, James Mayhew.
 BARNSTABLE, Samuel Beach, D. D.
 NANT, William L. Wilson, Frederick
 J. Judson, L. W. Barrett, Wm. Nash.
 BARNSTABLE, Mark A. Lacey, A. L.
 Williams.
 BARNSTABLE, R. B. Bulford, E. P. For-
 lesh.
 ARTHUR, H. N. Bennett.
 BARNSTABLE.
 BARNSTABLE, James Perkins.

HENRYVILLE, James H. Skelton.
 MOORE, Nathan H. Hall.
 NEW CANAAN, Samuel S. Noyes, Lewis
 Kilduff.
 NEWFAIR, John A. McLane, Ira Grop-
 sey.
 BARNSTABLE, David W. Ketchum.
 BARNSTABLE, N. D. Haight, Geo. Hunting-
 ton, Robert Lockwood.
 FAIRFIELD, William T. Skelton.
 TOWN, ELIJAH MIDDLE-
 BROOK, George Tappan.
 WESTPORT, George Buchanan, David
 S. Burr.

WINDHAM COUNTY.

WM. H. CORNWELL, M. D., Chairman.

JAMES B. WAINWRIGHT, M. D., Clerk.

BARNSTABLE, James D. Whitcomb, En-
 lid M. Hall, William Woodbridge.
 ALFORD, John H. Whitcomb.
 GREENVILLE, Eliza Ballou, Joseph
 Palmer.
 CHATHAM, Olin Wynn.
 HARTFORD, Dyer Hagley.
 BARNSTABLE, Derrile, Julia Har-
 mond.
 SOUTH KILLINGLY, David A. Harvey.
 EAST KILLINGLY, E. F. Hall.
 WEST KILLINGLY, David E. Hall, Bernard
 Hamilton, Stephen C. Gage.
 WILLIAMSBURG, Henry W. Haugh.
 THOMAS W. Perry.
 FAIRFIELD, William H. Cornwell.

FAIRFIELD, Carl P. O. Mary Bagges,
 Nathan S. Pike, Ed. Baldwin, Jr.,
 Florence Bagges.
 PORTFOLIO, Eliza Hall, Lewis Wil-
 son.
 BARNSTABLE, William A. Lewis.
 THOMAS, Samuel Brown.
 VANDERBILT, Harvey Clapham.
 WINDHAM, Chester Best, De Witt C.
 Lathrop.
 WILLIAMSBURG, John H. Jr.
 SOUTH, Calvin B. Brainerd.
 WOODSTOCK, North, Ann White.
 South Woodstock, Lorenson Mary.
 West Woodstock, Milton, Bradford,
 Charles H. Rogers.
 EASTPORT, Henry Perry.

LITCHFIELD COUNTY.

MYRON DOWNS, M. D., Chairman.

GEORGE SEYMOUR, M. D., Clerk.

LITCHFIELD, Samuel Seal, J. G. Beck-
 with, George Seymour, D. E. Bod-
 with, Charles Vail.
 SOUTH FARM, Garry H. Hunt.
 BARNSTABLE, F. H. Graham.
 BARNSTABLE, G. O. Smith.

BARNSTABLE, Horace Judson.
 CANAAN, A. A. Wright, George Adams,
 Oliver H. Smith.
 SOUTH CANAAN, John A. Gillett.
 CORNWELL, Edwin B. Smith.

Hart, Charles V., Samuel W. Gold, L. E. Smith.
 North Chatham.
 COVINGTON, Seth Pomeroy.
 Gaylord's Bridge, Gustaf H. St. John.
 GUNTER, A. M. Hadley.
 HARTWELL.
 KENT, Welford Burdick, Johnson C. Blunk, Elsie O'Brien.
 NEW HARTWELL, Orestes.
 NEW MARION, Abiel Williams, Wm. B. Lucy.
 NORTON, William W. Welch, E. D. Hagitt.
 PLYMOUTH, Samuel T. Salisbury.
 Plymouth Mills, William Woodruff.
 RICHMOND, Myron Dodge.

SALMON, O. Hunt, Wm. Weeden.
 LEBANON, Benjamin Welch, Jr., John H. Welch.
 SHAW, Ralph Dewing, Chauncey Reed.
 HYDESBORO, Eleazar Thayer, W. S. Whiting, J. W. Phelps.
 WARREN, O. Brown.
 WINDSBORO, Maudy Peters.
 WOODBURY, R. M. Fisher.
 NEW PLYMOUTH, Sidney H. Lyman, Edward P. Lyman.
 WATERBURY, Samuel Catlin, Jr.
 WEST WINDSBORO, James Welch, H. G. Westlake.
 WINDSBORO, Charles D. Webb.
 TRYFILL.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY.

M. D., Chairman.

O. C. H. GILBERT, M. D., Clerk.

MIDDLEBURY, Joseph Warren, Charles Woodward, William B. Casey, David Harrison, Franklin Woodruff, Elsie B. Nye, George W. Foster.
 CHATHAM, Francis H. Edgerton.
 MIDDLE MIDDLEBURY, A. E. Wainwright.
 CHATHAM, S. W. Turner.
 CHATHAM, Thomas H. Hubbard.
 CHATHAM, Richard Warner.
 DUNSTON, Benjamin M. Fisher.
 EAST MIDDLEBURY, Jos. M. Bell, Daniel Williams.

HIGDON, Jos. Richardson.
 HIGDON, William H. Tremaine.
 KILLBUCK, Richard M. Bart.
 FERRIS, George O. Jarvis, Stephen Felt, G. C. H. Gilbert.
 SARATOGA, Am. H. King.
 ELY, Alexander H. Hough, Frederick W. Shagard.
 ELY RIVER, Elisha Baker.
 WINDSBORO, Henry Way.

TOLLAND COUNTY.

EARL SWIFT, M. D., Chairman.

GILBERT H. PASTOR, M. D., Clerk.

TOLLAND, Abiel Ladd, Oliver K. Dikens, Gilbert H. Pastor.
 ANDOVER, Abigail White.
 BOSTON, Charles F. Sawyer.
 COVINGTON, Harrison Melrose.
 COVINGTON, North, Elmer Hart.
 St. Chassey, T. Lusk, H. M. Lusk.
 ELIZABETH, Alice Hyde, Herman Day, J. H. Manning.
 HENSON, JOHN S. PETERS, Ovin C. White, Elijah A. Woodward.

MANFIELD, Nath. Norman Brigham, W. H. Richardson.
 North Manfield, Earl Swift.
 SHALLO, Ovin Wood, Elmer E. Harbison.
 STAFFORD, Kent, William S. Clark, Elmer S. Locke.
 STAFFORD, West, Arthur C. Budgett.
 Upton, E. Lusk.
 YARROW, Alden Shuman.
 ROCKY, Benjamin H. Conings.
 WINDSBORO, Francis L. Dickinson.

SUMMARY OF COUNTRY MEMBERS FOR 1851, WITH THE DEATHS IN 1851.

	Taxable.	Not Taxable.	Total.	Deaths.
Hartford County,	63	8	71	1
New Haven County,	66	8	74	6
New London County,	41	14	55	4
Lockford County,	62	1	63	2
Windham County,	38	5	43	8
Fairfield County,	22	5	27	1
Middlesex County,	25	1	26	1
Tolland County,	23	5	27	9
Total,	306	48	354	4

Note.—Tanner Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society, are permanent members of the Annual Conventions, having the privilege of attending all meetings, and performing all the duties of attending members, except that of voting there votes. And all regulars of the Society are invited, but by others to be present at all meetings of the Convention, and partake of the dinner on the first day of the session.

DEATHS OF MEMBERS FOR THE YEAR ENDING APRIL 1, 1852, WITH THE AGE AND DISEASE SO FAR AS ASCERTAINED.

- Hartford County, E. W. Carrington, aged 51, of Apoplexy.
 New Haven County, Virgil Mann Dorr, Phthisis, aged 50.
 Andrew Fajock, Disease of the Heart, aged 68.
 New London County, John B. Marsh, Old age, aged 84.
 Fairfield County, Warren Percival, Induration of age, aged 65.
 Litchfield County, William Root, Apoplexy, aged 51.
 Andrew Alcockley, Heart-ache, aged 78.
 Middlesex County, Sarah Turner, Induration of Breasts, aged 51.

DUTIES OF CLERKS.

To wait County Meetings.

To record the proceedings of the County Meetings.

To collect the taxes, and pay the same to the Treasurer.

To transmit to the Secretary a list of the absent Fellows, and the names recommended as a committee for a petition (when it is taken, immediately after the County Meetings, for publication.

To make declaration of Fellowship, to be transmitted to the Secretary, on or before the first day of the Conventions.

To transmit duplicate lists of the Members of the Society, to the Secretary.

and Treasurer, on or before the first day of the Convention, on the penalty of five dollars for each neglect.

To return to the Treasurer the names of delinquent Members of the Society.

To report to the Secretary of the State Convention, on the first day of its session, the names, ages, and denominations of the Members of this Society, who may have died during the year preceding the 1st of April in each year, in their several County Societies.

RULES OF ORDER.

1. Organization.
2. Certificates of Membership presented and read by Secretary.
3. Committee on the election of Fellows.
4. Address of President.
5. Election of officers for coming year.
6. Unfinished business of previous year disposed of.
7. Recognition and reference, without debate, of Communications, Resolves, &c., from the several Counties, and Members of the Convention.
8. Reading Treasurer's Report.
9. Committee to audit the same.
10. Committee on Delegates.
11. Standing Committees appointed.
12. Committee to nominate Delegates to Synodal Convention.
13. Committee on Candidates for graduate course of brethren.
14. Committee on Honorary Degrees and Honorary Memberships.
15. Committee to nominate Dissenters.
16. Dissenters.
17. Reports of Committees appointed on County Communications, Resolves, &c.
18. Reports of Standing Committees.
19. Reports of Committees in the order in which business was brought forward in Convention.
20. Miscellaneous business.

DISSERTATIONS READ IN CONVENTIONS.

1794. Dr. S. H. P. Lee, on Autumnal Bilious Fever.
 1794. Dr. Gideon Shepherd, on the Properties of Opium.
 1795. Dr. F. P. Ousiers, on the Preparations of Antimony.
 1795. Dr. Thaddeus Betts, on the different species of Colic.
 1795. Dr. F. P. Ousiers, on the Contagion of Yellow Fever.
 1796. Dr. S. H. P. Lee, on Cynanche Tonsillaris.
 1796. Dr. Lewis Collins, on the most eligible mode of increasing Medical Knowledge in this State.
 1796. Dr. Gideon Shepherd, on the same subject.
 1798. Dr. Samuel Hopkins, case of Bilious Constipation.
 1798. Dr. Jurel Potter, "An Essay."
 1799. Dr. Thaddeus Clark, a Dissertation.
 1800. Dr. Nathaniel Dwight, on Lemury.
 1804. Dr. Samuel Willard, on the Scattered Mineral Waters.
 1817. Dr. W. R. Fowler, on the deleterious effects of Ardent Spirits.
 1818. Dr. William Bush, on Ergot.
 1820. Dr. Thomas Miner, on Typhus Fever.
 1821. Dr. Samuel Rockwell, on Uterine Hemorrhage.
 1822. Dr. William Tully, on the Yellow Fever at Middletown.
 1823. Dr. Dyer T. Brainard.
 1827. Dr. Samuel B. Woodward, on the Biography of the Physicians of the State.
 1829. Dr. George Sumner, on Extraneous Conception.
 1830. Dr. Charles Hodder, on Diseases of the Ear.
 1833. Dr. Benjamin Welch, Jr., on the Vitality of the Blood.
 1839. Dr. E. H. Bishop, "Influence of Moral Emotions on Disease."
 1837. Dr. Archibald Welch, on Scarlet Fever.
 1838. Dr. Isaac G. Foster, on the Disease commonly denominated Spinal Irritation.
 1839. Dr. Henry Bronson, on the Mental Qualifications necessary to a Physician.
 1840. Dr. Richard Warner, on the Advantages of prompt and efficient practice in Acute Diseases.
 1841. Dr. Amosiah Brigham, on Insanity as a subject of Medical Jurisprudence.
 1842. Dr. Charles Woodward, on Uterine Irritation.
 1843. Dr. Pinckney W. Ellsworth, on Phlebotomy.

1844. Dr. Worthington Hooker, on the respect due to the Medical Profession, and the reasons that it is not awarded by the community.
1845. Dr. Nathan B. Ives, on Laryngismus Stridulus.
1846. Dr. Theodore Sill, Observations on Typhus Fever.
1847. Dr. E. K. Hunt, on the Importance of a Medical Organization, and the advantages resulting from it.
1848. Dr. B. F. Barker, Remarks on some forms of disease of the Cervix Uteri.
1849. Dr. Alvan Talbot, on Hygiene.
1850. Dr. Johnson C. Hatch, on Medical Jurisprudence.
1851. Dr. George Sumner, on the Early Physicians of Connecticut.

APPENDIX A.

Report of the Examining Committee of the Connecticut Medical Society for 1852.

The Board of Examiners convened at the Medical Village in New Haven on Wednesday, the 14th of January, 1852.

Present on the part of the Medical Society, *ELIAS HAYMONS, M. D., President*; Fairfield; *PHILIP A. JEWELL, M. D., New Haven*; *BENJAMIN WELCH, M. D., Salisbury*; *ARTHUR WESTON, M. D., Franklin*; *FRANKLIN W. ELWORTH, M. D., Hartford*.

On the part of Yale College—*Professors B. WILLIAMS, Elihu Jonathan Knight, T. P. BROWN, C. HASKIN and H. HAYMONS.*

Fifty-two candidates were examined and recommended for the degree of Doctor in Medicine.

1. *FRANCIS BROWN, New Haven*, on the "Vitality of the Trunk."
2. *RICHARD MILLS PAUL, CHASE, on "Hepatitis and Pneumonic Typhus."*
3. *JAMES HART CURRY, Philadelphia, N. Y.* on "Typhoid Fever," and the "Valedictory Address."
4. *JOSEPH EDWARD DODDING, WATKINFIELD, on "Uterine Leucorrhoea."*
5. *NATHANIEL MARION FROSTMAN, KATHON, on "Gang."*
6. *PHILIP ROBERT BOSTON, New-Haven, on "Gang."*
7. *CHARLES AUGUSTUS JACOBUS, B. A., Trinity Coll., Hartford, New Jersey, on "Diagnosis."*
8. *JOHN MOSES MUNDY, New Haven, on "Anæsthesia."*
9. *GEORGE THOMPSON PARSONS, KENT, on "Inflammation."*
10. *HENRY NORTON BROWN, B. A., Yale, New Haven, on "Infantile Worms."*
11. *WILLIAM HENRY JONES, Portland, on "Scrophulous."*
12. *FRANKLIN VINCIGUERRA, BOSTON, New-Greenwich, on "Gastritis."*
13. *NATHANIEL WILSON, PHILADELPHIA, on "Erysipelas."*
14. *FRANK ALLEN WILSON, WILSON, on "Pneumonia."*

The Degree of Doctor in Medicine was conferred by President WILLIAMS on ten candidates. From one the degree was WITHHELD, he not having arrived at the age of twenty-one years. Three are to have their degrees when their full term of study is completed. Total 13.

The Annual address to the Candidates was given by ALFRED TOLBERT, M. D., of Guilford, who is a member of the Board of Examiners. It was an exceedingly well written and able production, replete with sound maxims and good advice, and was listened to with much attention by a large number of busy men.

The valedictory address by JAMES H. CURRY, M. D., was one of the best efforts of the kind we ever heard. It was written in a forcible and pleasant style,

and exhibited some decidedly "good kind." If the young author enters upon the practice of medicine with the same vigor, and adheres to the good advice incidentally in his address, we think there will be no doubt of his success.

The candidates, with, we repeat to say, some exceptions, were exceedingly well prepared, and sustained their examinations with honor to themselves, their instructors, and the institution. Some of the passing gentlemen were poorly prepared; some from the want of proper study, thus from the lack of care and attention on the part of their instructors in the college.

Your committee cannot close this report without calling your attention to the very low estimate in which certificates of study are given by some instructors. It is not sufficient that a student's name has been entered in a Physician's office for a given time, to entitle a full certificate. He should also bring some evidence that he has pursued the study of medicine and attended recitations. It is loudly and justly believed that some students appear before the Board with a full certificate, who have (in part or even) made a revolution in the Pharmacy, giving the certificate. Such proceedings are only calculated to bring disgrace upon both the instructor and pupil.

Upon the whole the committee were well pleased with the arrangements of the candidates; and it may be proper to state that with the exceptions above mentioned, they all passed with the unanimous vote of the Board.

By order of the Examining Committee.

P. A. JEWETT.

New Haven, Jan. 17, 1851.

APPENDIX B.

The Committee appointed under Dr. WILSON'S resolution, in relation to the Report made by the Fellows from the Fairfield County Society, would Report:

We had the honor to be asked: Three individuals, JEREMIAH T. DUNN, HAZEL M. NORTON and CHARLES ARNOLD, were reported to be "unwillingly in the presence of Heteropathy;" and therefore, according to a By-law adopted at the last meeting of the State Medical Society, the County Society, on full proof of the alleged fact, was competent to expel them. Due notice was given to the offenders, so that they could, if they pleased, appear to defend themselves against the charge. They failed to appear. The Society then passed the following vote: Resolved, That the above-named persons be disowned from the Fairfield County Medical Society.

On referring to the By-laws it will be seen that the subject of disowning members is treated of by itself, in Article 3d of the section entitled *County Meetings*; and certain cases to which that act may be applied are very definitely stated. This act is not applied to any affair, in the strict sense of that term, unless to "defeat or neglect to pay taxes" be an offence. But this seems to be considered by the Society simply as indicating that the individual does not

prize the privilege of belonging as it sufficiently makes it proper that he continue to be a member.

Offenses and infractions are treated of in the 4th Article of the same Function. The process to be gone through with in the treatment of offenders is fully detailed; and the result is, that "the offenders, under restrictions, may be punished by exclusion, by suspension from the privilege of the Society for a period not exceeding two years, or by expulsion from the Society."

The cases reported by the Fairfield County Association clearly come under this head; and the proper course for the County Society to pursue was, in all but name one of the forms of punishment named in that Article, instead of simply discussing the offenders, and to report their actions, if expulsion were decided upon, to the State Society for its consideration.

The subject of the treatment described by Society to Physicians who become Heterodox practitioners is of very great importance, and recalls back your Committee some comment in view of the case which have been referred to us.

The object contemplated by the Legislature in granting a Charter to the Maine Medical Society, was to secure to the people of Connecticut the services of a well educated body of Physicians. It was presumed that all medical opinions, and treatments, and alleged cures, which are recognized, sanctioned and practiced by the profession. The idea was entertained by its members that there would not be perfect freedom of opinion among the medical men authorized by the State Society. And therefore we presume to assume the contemplated which should introduce to the public a more body of Physicians, to secure that the medical profession mentioned in the act is qualified to it. It was presumed that every new doctrine or remedial discovery would merit its share of a full and candid investigation, and that there were no subject of discussion and character a particular note, confined to its usefulness, or rather that its claims might be properly urged. And the history of medicine shows that the position that then authorized by the Legislature was not founded. Its failure in some way part of which has been shown to be valuable, has been widely reported by the medical profession; but on the other hand, it has been estimated and which the various parties, however much it may be has been treated and about among the prominent supporters of the system.

But it has been contended within the last few years that the medical profession has failed to accomplish its purpose in this respect, and that progress demands that other Physicians should be and be encouraged in order that all the resources of medical science be developed. Accordingly various men have arisen, whose aims being to create divisions, and indicating that he has been charged, as Heterodoxy, supported himself by his words, "the great gift of God is word." The opinion which find themselves together being those advocates in different orders of the community such according to its positive character. And respectively Heterodoxy, Theosophy, Esotericism, &c., are all the systems of the same nature, united in marriage in the circumstances under which they spring up. Theosophy, for example, says the common view that *gynaeceia* told and *gynaeceia* women; while Heterodoxy attracts people which are seduced by fashion or education and especially those which are attracted with materialism.

These systems, however widely they differ in character, all agree in one thing—they are all at war with what they term the "regular" profession. And this war, which is one of extermination, they have prosecuted from the beginning. It is idle, therefore, for their advocates to claim that they have been cast out of the medical profession. They have called themselves by the position which they have voluntarily assumed. They have ignored the profession, and their appeal has ever been from the profession to the people; and if we take them at their word and say, 'to the people let them go,' they can not accuse us of intolerance or persecution.

The remarks just made inapplicable as fully to Homoeopathy as to the other systems which we have named. This system, it is true, was founded by a regular Physician; but it was after he had cut himself loose from the profession, and posed himself not only as superior, but as above, by selling common sense for a newly discovered specific, at the enormous price of a *doan d'or* per ounce. And Homoeopathy, thus born in rapaciousness, has ever retained the true spirit of its origin. It has not waited to be driven from the domain of science; but, launching itself, it has ever worn the garb, and adopted the modes and tactics of quackery. The claims, therefore, which its noisy band of converts now so boldly set up for the privileges and honors which science gives, is not only baseless but impudent, and quite as much so as that which is set up just as boldly by their brethren in medicine, the *Thomsonian* and *Eclectic*.

It is pertinent to remark here, that the assertion which the advocates of these various systems so often make—that the medical profession has, like them, adopted an exclusive set of doctrines—is entirely false. The term *Allopathy*, which the Homoeopaths borrow upon us, is a misnomer. The great body of the profession are ready to receive any facts or doctrines, from whatever quarter they may come, demanding only that they shall be proved to be true.

The issue, then, between the regular profession and the various sects which have lately risen, is distinct and clear. The profession claims, first, in the organization which the Legislature has given it in substance, it is accomplishing in the most efficient manner possible the object aimed at—the supplying the community with a body of well-educated Physicians. And it further claims, that it does this without trampling in the least upon liberty of opinion. The various sects, on the contrary, claim that the Legislature was mistaken in its views, and that the only way to secure liberty of opinion, and therefore progress, is to grant an organization to every sect that asks for it, and that too without existing of it an allowance to fully recognizing the necessity of thorough education. The question before the community is not, as Homoeopaths and others contend, whether an *Allopathic* sect, so called, is to have a monopoly, or is to share equal rights with other medical sects; but it is, whether or an uneducated and educated professions shall be sustained, or the community shall, in place of it, be filled with a variety of uneducated and irresponsible sects in medicine. And all that we ask of the Legislature is, that it shall not forsake the original design of which it distinctly aimed in granting the Charter of the State Medical Society, and not that it shall remove it as any monopoly. We do not ask that any medical sect shall be put down by the power of law, but simply that no sect as such shall be authorized by law to assume the position, so long granted to a profession which allows of the widest latitude of opinion, and recognizes character and education as the only basis of membership.

These preliminary remarks have been necessary, in order to show in a right domain of the question, as to what our duty is in relation to Physicians in our ranks who become Homoeopathic practitioners.

Some indulgence has hitherto been exercised toward such offenders, but it is now fast becoming the general sentiment of the profession that they should at once be expelled from our Societies.

They can be excluded for incompetence. It is a well known fact, however much it may be disputed in certain quarters, that the great majority of Homoeopathic practitioners are not only poorly educated and destitute of any proper credentials, but they are guilty of pursuing the grossest acts of quackery. Any man of sensitiveness with the common herd of Homoeopathic practitioners should himself be looked on as a misdoer, and simply because it constitutes the great object of our organization—the securing to the community a body of well educated medical men.

But it is not necessary, we thought, to wait for the consensus of our rank definite and individual act. Homoeopathy has been before the profession for half a century and has been thoroughly examined; and if there be a nucleus of truth in it, that would not be lost to science, although as a system it should at once, as it is destined to do in a short period of time, pass into other hands. And in the position which Homoeopathy has been assuming more and more distinctly ever since its rise, it is not, as it is asserted, a system of doctrine merely; but a system of doctrine, or rather a group of dogmas, united with all the arts and appliances of quackery, and relying on them for its support; and after fifty years' experience with it, the profession are justified in treating it as containing no elements.

Very different would be the position of the profession toward Homoeopathy, if it had availed, like other doctrines advanced by Physicians, to gain a foothold among medical men alone as strictly, instead of seeking its support to the popular fancy and against the profession. In that case, should as Homoeopathy is, we should, as advocates of freedom of opinion in medicine, deem it at once the idea of subjecting any of its tenets that might be found in our ranks to discussion, and should be content to combat it with argument, confident of the power of truth to dispel the delusion. But a system of quackery, based upon a jumble of dogmas, put forth by one who was at once a demagogue and a rascal, rarely merits any such consideration from medical men. And as its adherents do not aim simply at the establishment of a system of doctrine, but wage a war of inductions against the profession, and seek to throw down its barriers that guard it from the intrusion of ignorance and quackery, if any of them be found in our ranks, we may clearly be justified in expelling them. Such a course is not only dictated by self-interest, but the regard which is due from Physicians to the welfare of the community demands it of us. If we do not expel them, we consent to the loss and destructive alliance between science and empiricism, which they are attempting to effect by retaining their place in our Societies. To occupy the position at once of Physicians and of quacks, is an inconsistency in which no reasonable man would ask the profession to give its sanction.

In view of these facts and principles therefore, your Committee recommend that in accordance with our By-laws, every Physician who becomes a Homoeopathic practitioner, should at once, in proof of the fact, be expelled from the Society.

Perhaps it will be said that, although most of those regular Physicians who become Homoeopaths do so for personal reasons alone, there are some few who are honest in their convictions, and that these should not be dealt with in this peremptory manner. In reply to this it may be said, that it is collectively impossible to distinguish between those who are honest and those who are not so; and even if we could make the distinction, no honest conviction is likely to prove a delusion may be justly considered as giving a moral obliquity so great, as to disqualify for the proper performance of the duties of a Physician.

It is proper to remark here, that if a Physician should think that the alleged principle, *similia similibus curantur*, which was definitely advanced by Stahl a century before Hahnemann made it the basis of his system, applied as an explanation of some of the phenomena developed in the treatment of disease, or if he should think that Homoeopathy has brought to our notice some remedies which are of value, such opinions do by no means render him a Homoeopathist, or subject him to discipline. We put no restriction upon such opinions in our organization. It is the adoption of Homoeopathy as a system of doctrine and practice, and of its practitioners as such—*that* it is the going over to Homoeopathy as a sect—which alone may make the term Homoeopathist applicable to any Physician, and render him a fit subject for the act of expulsion. At the same time it should be remarked, that those who, in order to meet in the popular prejudice, inform a portion of their employers, that they are ready to practice Homoeopathically as well as in the old way, (as it is termed,) are guilty of an obsequiousness to the popular quackery, indicating a loss of the self-respect belonging to every high-minded Physician.

In accordance with the views presented in this Report, your Committee recommended, that the action of the Fairfield County Medical Society be not ratified, and that the subject be referred back to that Society, that they may act upon it in compliance with the By-laws, in order that their action may in proper form come before the State Society at its next annual meeting.

WORTHINGTON BUCKER, Chairman.

APPENDIX C.

TO THE PRESIDENT AND FELLOWS OF THE CONNECTICUT MEDICAL SOCIETY.

The committee appointed to examine Professors in the Medical Institution of Yale College respectfully report:

That the committee was called to meet the committee appointed by the corporation of Yale College upon the reception of the resignation of Henry Benson, M. D. All but one of the members of your committee being present, sufficient to form a quorum, it was unanimously voted to nominate to the corporation Worthington Bucker, M. D., of Norwich, now professor in Yale College.

E. H. BISHOP, Secretary.

New Haven, May 12th, 1852.

APPENDIX D.

Every social organization needs a system of discipline, in other words, an ethical code, for the regulation of the social conduct. This requires some sacrifice on the part of individuals, otherwise the individual impulses would be sufficient to regulate the social relations.

The idea of moral obligation is inseparable from an intelligent code of conduct, because we are conscious of an intimate connection between the outward action and the moral sentiments. This consciousness has extended the word ethics from its original sense to the province to which it is the moral nature.

Therefore in every organization formed for the interests of our fellow-men, the members should cultivate a high sense of the moral obligations imposed upon them by these articles of agreement, such, by every act of their lives, create a lively and increasing interest in the object for which the company is formed.

There is particularly true in the medical profession. Designed as it originally was, to protect the health, to remove diseases incident to our race, and consequently to increase every man's sphere of usefulness, a code of medical ethics has been formed, which is admirably adapted to accomplish these important objects. The observance of these rules is highly important, not only for the purpose of accomplishing these objects, but of observing the moral bond of the profession to which we belong.

It is unnecessary to enlarge upon the propriety of complying with the various regulations adopted by the "American Medical Association," and by all our local societies. But it is proper to remark upon the violation of some of these regulations by members of our society, who, were it not for these irregularities, would be worthy members and valuable members.

Considerations still further professional decorum should be encouraged with all the members of our profession who possess a "moral and professional" character, which partly unites them to each other. But whatever deficiency, either in "power" or respectable "professional standing" existing amongst them, and thereby professional intercourse with them should not be encouraged. Within the observation of your committee, continued and strenuous efforts have been made to maintain the high part restriction of license when applicable upon those who, without proper qualifications, have commenced the practice of medicine.

The regulations were urged by the distinguished officers of General Thompson to report the wrong of our act of irregularities, and requested by the members of our society not to report it.

It is perfectly impossible from the consciousness of party spirit, and the consciousness of brief authority, to discuss the importance of petition by the present power of that petition. It is unfortunate if it is so.

We have to regret that this petition was not considered on its own merits, and thus all party bias removed. The purpose of the petition was granted, and the petitioners were placed, as far as the status of legislative authority is concerned, on a footing with thoroughly educated practitioners.

On the propriety of this course, no repetition of opinion is necessary. But

If our code of ethics, as it now exists, had always been fully regarded, both in letter and spirit, perhaps no legislative action would ever have been taken.

Frequently and at the present time a course has been pursued by many of the profession well calculated to advance the interests of this and other classes of respirators. Consultations with any class, which depends on a reputation based upon any special mode of practice, will do infinitely more to sustain them than legislative acts. Aside from a temporary and personal advantage, which might be gained by such consultations, no benefit is to be expected.

We are not disposed to interpolate the ignorance of Samuel Thompson (in asserting in the nineteenth century that fire, air, earth, and water, were simple elementary bodies, or for his indiscriminate use of opium and lobelia, and prove over all other classes of respirators to being less objectionable; for while the procuring effect of lobelia in a low stage of typhus fever would, with more apparent certainty, hasten the death of a patient, than would an infinitesimal dose of sulphur or charcoal, it is equally true that over-doses are often as great as sins of commission. The whole group of quackery and impostures of this character is opposed to the interests of the medical profession, and the welfare of the patient; and every member of our profession, who wishes to advance the interests of science and himself his fellow-men, should at once and forever abandon all professional intercourse with those who make any pretensions to a special system of practice, working with equal scrupulousness the natural law-giver, the believer in the venereal doctrine "simile similibus curatur," the dealer in lobelia, or of other goods.

Very nearly allied to this subject is the practice of many of our highly responsible physicians of giving their names in recommendation of a nostrum possessing very little intrinsic merit, and altogether inferior, as a medicinal agent, to the every-day prescriptions of an intelligent physician, and which it is in the highest degree reprehensible. For example, take the composition called "Cherry Pectoral," the advertisement of which is accompanied by a plate representing chemical vessels almost sufficient for a full exposition of the science of chemistry, and by a long list of names of distinguished professional men.*

They recommend a solution of Morphine, Blood Root, Hyoscy, Atropine, and Symploc. Bark Cherry, "protected by law from counterfeits," with the list fully before them, that this compound can not be beneficial or even safe, in all stages of any particular disease.

Still more reprehensible, if possible, is the practice of advising our patients to use the various nostrums which are at the present day so constantly peddled upon the public. The aid of intelligent and honest members of our profession should not be rendered to increase the wealth of those engaged in the lucrative trade of nostrums.

Intelligent physicians should carefully investigate every case of disease which comes under their observation; and if they substantiated the diagnosis and pathology, and are not grossly deficient in their knowledge of natural medicine, they will be successful in the treatment. If they are too indolent to investigate the character of the disease, or incapable of perceiving a judicious course of

*The recommendation of "Ayer's Cherry Pectoral" to which Professor Silliman's name is attached, is a forgery. He says "I positively refused to recommend it, or to give him leave in any way to use my name." It is believed that many of the other similar recommendations are forgeries.

ness. The practice of medicine and the art of *dispensing* it, should not be converted into a mere trade, of which the governing principle is to make the most of the business, at the expense of every honest and conscientious association.

Those who pursue a course of this kind may, and often do succeed in accomplishing the object in view. The eye of the public may fail to detect the falsity; but their honorable brethren will teach them with unmistakable *disapprobation*.

As has been already intimated, a high sense of moral obligation should be sufficient to induce every member of our profession to act so as best to promote the interests of all.

The propriety, and to a great extent the usefulness of our profession, is dependent upon the action of those who are engaged in it; and as motives which originate in selfishness will necessarily induce individuals to deviate from the course which the moral sense dictates, a system of ethics has been adopted, which should in all cases guide and restrain the *swerving*. It would seem to be wholly unnecessary to remind the members of our liberal and reasonable profession of the propriety of obeying the suggestions of the moral sense; but inasmuch as there is a proneness to disregard the "higher law," we have a written code of medical ethics so plain that "he who read may tread."

The attention of your committee has also been directed to the question of remuneration for services, as a branch of medical ethics, affecting both the physician and his employee. When we take into view the expense of acquiring a medical education, and the demands for the sacrifice of time and services that are consequent on the practice of medicine, it must be admitted that the *rate of charges usually adopted by physicians in this state is very low*. It is believed that industrious families of a class, with little expense in learning a trade, a total exemption from the washings, sewers, and general disquiet of a professional life, with comparatively small sacrifice of time, certainly, in comparing on the great moral, educational, and benevolent requirements of the age, accumulate a much larger amount of property than is usually the portion of physicians practicing in the same neighborhood.

With this devoted life, the cheapness of land, and the abundance of the necessities of life, the calls on our profession for gratuitous services ought to be few, much fewer than they are. Medical men should place a higher value on their labors. Although there are confessedly many calls for the exercise of unquestioned benevolence, yet the man who is able to purchase when with *all the blessings the necessities of life, ought and should pay something to compensate the physician, who has devoted his time, and skill, and various cares, for the recovery from sickness of himself or family*. There is, for this, a moral obligation resting on the patient which, if he can, he ought to discharge; and his merits are vitiated, if through his own or his physician's negligence, it fails to be done.

But there is another view of this question of fees suggested by the practice of those physicians who deviate to the trick of underbargaining for the purpose of securing patronage. Such unprofessional conduct affects the dignity and honor of the profession, and demands the severest reprobation. It destroys the self-respect of the delinquent; and consequently disqualifies him for honorable membership. It undermines the foundation of all mutual confidence and intercourse, and would, if generally adopted, degrade the profession to the low level of the *poorly and shabby*.

It is to be hoped that the thorough graduation and medical education, which is now required, will tend to exclude from the profession such persons as might be disposed to degrade its majesty and direct its high honors to the purposes of craft and selfishness; and it should be viewed only as belonging to emigrants and visitors.

If it is true in *paribus*, it should not be to the medical profession, that "every man has his price."

ARCHIBALD WELCH, *Chairman.*

There was an opportunity presented to confer with Dr. Beckwith, (one of the members,) present to the meeting of the Convention, he submitted the following report.

APPENDIX E.

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of Medical Ethics, further Report

That great progress has been made in this department of our profession within the last half-century. In reviewing the history of our profession, we find no well defined system of medical policy, systems of Medical Ethics before the establishment of Medical Societies, and the organization of Medical Journals.

The wants of the community were found to demand a more intelligent and better educated class of practitioners, to meet the exigencies of the times and to sustain itself among the highest professions of the day. Theoretical and Law Schools were becoming established and the scientific experiments of the clinical and legal professions from the possession of a more of educated men, gave an impulse to our profession, which has rendered it liberal in character and placed it among the liberal professions in all countries.

When the profession began its new and higher stage of thought and action, and to investigate the extensive field of natural history and the unexplored depths of science which were placed within the legitimate sphere of its research; and the vast regions of the animal, mineral and vegetable kingdoms were given up to it, not as they are yielded to the commoner, its classifications and investigations merely, but as the means of improving human life and defending it from the attacks of the destroyer; a host of novelties were thus brought into the service of the profession, hitherto unknown and of course uncommunicated and lost to the world. With the commencement of medical experiments, which can have existed but about half a century, and the commencement of a course of medical instruction in the several departments of our profession, must be attributable the origin and adoption of that code of medical ethics and policy which is now found to fill a prominent place in the organization of every well regulated medical society. A well defined system which prescribes the rules of association, the benevolent feeling which the members of the society are to render towards each other—the respect due to authority in the profession—the regulation of medical charities—the subjects of medical benevolence, and the whole conduct of the members of the profes-

sins in each other and to the public. With their eyes you are familiar. They passed upon the great principle of national application, "Do unto others as you wish them to do unto you."

Fifty years since and the hardy sons of Louisiana were famed not only in their treatment of diseases, but in their treatment of each other. The practitioner who relied upon the bowdler, who could venture to abstract the largest quantity of blood as safe as drawing by the most gentle remedies, was deemed the safe man, for he was a man of undoubted courage, and toward his rival, if there was of necessary any collision of interest, (with some honorable exceptions,) he pursued an unflinching warfare; and he who could not assume this warlike attitude and even say the war was the enemy's camp, was often regarded as too tame a man to be deserving of the confidence of the public. This attitude was not confined to the rival practitioners, but to all his enemies, and he needed no other incentive but to be told that his rival had purchased a certain remedy, to need it himself. His rivalry and unfeigned feelings infected the whole community—was strong, in other respects quiet places in the country, it was almost the only excitement which agitated the community—and in this they glowed, preferring rather to die in the deadly debate of the practice, as the comrades of their hardy physicians, than to trace the efficacy of the remedies of more successful rival practitioners. Hence the quarrels of medical men became personal and thence the origin of that significant proverb "who shall decide when doctors disagree?"

But a better day has dawned upon the medical profession, when kindness and good offices to each other are prospects to embrace in the professions; when there is a generous emulation to excel in maintenance of kindness and benevolence to one another—to defend our common profession, which we so much love, from the attacks of the destroyers and the malevolents; and to lay its foundations broad and deep upon a superstructure more enduring than earth, steel, and iron it erects a lofty monument to our common "friendship and our beloved profession." The demonstrations of these social relations have been more emphatically proclaimed and more largely exemplified in the associations of the country, the north, and the nation within the last fifty years, and are now steadily being developed, exhibiting the larger resources of medical men and the influence which they exert in sustaining the social fabric of our population institutions; bringing together the north and the south, with the east and the west, in one common and harmonious voice; the varied interests and the concentrated influences of the profession, making a concentration more effective and more reliable than the slightest combination of solitary forces in sustaining and perpetuating the common blessings of liberty and life, which are unappreciated however they are common.

Yet even in this enlightened age, with the lucid light which has been poured upon the nineteenth century, there are still difficulties to be encountered and obstacles to be surmounted. In our age and times there is constantly being exhibited some new form of delusion, commanding itself by its boldness and assumption of claims to the confidence of the public, or from some imaginary or pretended efficiency and efficacy to which it lays an legitimate claim, to reach here ahead or to occupy the domain. There are found men whom we regard as honorable and who occupy the high places of honor and trust in the land, or who minister at the altar of religion, that promulgating the high places

which they *deserve* to yield a borrowed taste to more popular lessons. It often becomes a grave question in our police what course should the profession pursue in regard to such defiled individuals. We know, first, they are to reverse from us such a course of *profoundly* imprinted as shall convince them that we are honest and excited in maintaining the *integrity* of the profession—that we are not without *indefinite* justice to our profession and to our convictions of duty, next in *gross* circulation from the life of a friend an individual of our class, who professes to come to health and perhaps from the verge of the grave, to life by the agency of a single remedy; or who believes the absurd dogma that the few quantify the greater effect, or the thousand effect oblations of the *big* majority abound. The duty of the profession is *gloriously* pointed out in one course of conduct which has the public reputation as a matter should be given to them. Knowledge should be imparted to the non-professional of the varied nature of our avocations, that they *apprise* upon the known and regular laws which govern the natural economy, and are in most instances not to rest upon an *unfounded* in the nature of our art and science. Without the *innumerable* advantages which the learned and scientific practitioner possesses over the ignorant and unlearned.

Let the village physician and the paring-cum *legum* share in knowledge in the people. Let well directed common sense and sound logic expose the dogma of a system which has no adaptation to the *diversified* phases of disease.

Then the regular position of medicine would be *honored* and respected; the devoted and self-sacrificing services of the profession, now cut by *bers of* hind and sight of *quackery*, (the very *essentials* of the profession) be *restored* to the public estimation, and be regarded by the world as the most useful of public benefactors.

The subject of *quackery* and the *verities* of *gross* impositions, and even the *gross* administration of another profession almost too sacred to be subjects of our *satirical* system, have been *readily* and *so* fully possessed by the character of the *convention*, we refrain from making them the subjects of further *consideration*.

But I would make some *humble* exceptions to such members of the *high* profession as have *possessed* unaided the purity of the *medical* science, and also to those members of the *medical* profession, who in addition to the *sublimity* influence which they exert in the course of their *services*, have *studied* and *supported* theories of *legitimate* medicine which has been the *delight* of their fathers.

When those of this class, who are poor and needy, ask for medical aid, let them receive the *greatest* services of our *profession*, for they are entitled to it from the *example* of the fathers of medicine.

There are other subjects of *medical* benevolence—the families of our *deceased* brethren, many of whom have fallen *prematurely* by exposure to the positions which *withhold* darkness or the *disturbance* which *every* day *brings*. They are most *unhappily* entitled to professional care and *gracious* services—a *small* paragon in *primary* consideration, for the *accidental* data due to the *deceased* patient, is *primary* to the living man.

There is another class, the poor, who *will* fall in charge to the *profession* by him who *respects* them in his *illness* and the *profession* to be *made* for,

and watched, now for their love to him and was anxious of future bliss. Let no one prove unworthy to the sacred trust.

Our police also prescribe that those whose days are devoted to science, or who are connected with any of the great pursuits of benevolence of the day, destitute of the means of pecuniary subsistence without themselves turn to themselves, should receive gratuities and so delicately bestowed as not to place them under obligations to us, but to the liberal rules of an excellent police which gives encouragement to the arts and sciences, and all the varieties of learning wherever they may be found—the knowledge, person of all that is good, great, and virtuous. But it is not our province to dwell upon the rules and regulations of any excellent system of police and others, which may be found well laid down in the second volume of the Proceedings of the American Medical Association.

REPORT

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON MEDICAL EDUCATION.

APPOINTED BY THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

BY WORTHINGTON HOOKER, M. D.

FROM THE TRANSACTIONS OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION. REPRODUCED
BY ORDER OF THE SAME MEDICAL SOCIETY.

One of the great objects of this Association is to raise the standard of efficiency and attainment in the various professions in this country. It was, therefore, the desire to present this subject in a series of most difficult subjects of our profession, that gave birth to the Association, and that has inspired us to its chief mission. Accordingly, much attention has been paid to this subject, both by association and by individuals; and it has furnished the principal topics for discussion at our annual meetings. The association have selected for us a series of facts, and the discussion have stirred the opinions of medical men from all parts of our Union; and yet, we poor commoners believe, we are only at the threshold of an investigation where it destined to effect a thorough change in the character and prospects of the medical profession in this country.

Thus far, only part of the broad field presented by this subject have been explored, and that separately. Much stress has been laid, by different schools, upon different measures which have been proposed, and the merits of each have been extensively argued by its advocates. A careful view of the subject as a whole, we think, will show that there is no one measure, or set of measures, that must raise the standard of medical education, but that this must be won by an extensive and varied consideration of measures. And it is such a view of this subject that we designate present in this report, as clearly and tersely as we can, to the Association.

It is a fact so palpable that few are disposed to question it, that the general standard of education and attainment is much lower in the medical than it is in the other professions. The evidence of this fact it is not necessary to dwell upon, as they will appear in the course of the exposition which we propose. An inquiry into its causes, by revealing to us the difficulties to be overcome, will show us what measures are necessary to promote the attainment which we wish. Such an inquiry rarely meets more space than it is entitled to by the limits of a report; and we shall be obliged to condense our remarks upon some portions of the subject which merit a full discussion.

In examining the causes of the low state of education in our profession, we shall find that they have an influence upon each other which makes it difficult to discover their relative importance. We shall also find that some causes which have hitherto in a great measure escaped observation, exert some influence than those which have attracted the most attention; and that in regard to some of these latter, it is true that they are results produced by causes which, because they lie farther back, have passed unnoticed. Let us then look at the different classes of these causes, so that we may place a due estimate upon each, and give to them all their just relative position.

We invite your attention, first, to those causes which we find in the existing modes of conducting medical education.

The defects and abuses which these modes present have some of them been freely commented upon in previous reports. But some which we deem to be of great importance have as yet not been noticed at all, or have been hardly hinted at incidentally. In our exposition of these defects and abuses, we shall point out, as we proceed, their appropriate remedies.

The defective preliminary education of a large proportion of the medical students in this country has been enlarged upon so fully in previous reports, and the importance of a change in this respect has been so universally acknowledged, and so fully impressed, that it is not necessary now to enter upon any extended examination of this subject. It is of the utmost importance that the action of the Association on this subject be fully sustained, and that its recommendations should be carried into effect as rapidly as the various conditions of the different portions of our country will permit. The system of practice which prevails in regard to the preliminary training of medical students is one of the greatest obstacles in the way of raising the standard of education and attainment in the profession. One position, which we believe is followed in nearly all our medical schools, has a peculiarly bad influence. We refer to the fact that all students are placed upon the same level in regard to the length of their required term of study before they can be candidates for a degree. There certainly should be a distinction made in this respect between those who have had a sufficient preliminary education, and those who have graduated at some literary institution, or who have in some other way duly prepared themselves for the study of medicine. Such a distinction is absolutely necessary to a proper recognition of the importance of a suitable preliminary education, and we therefore recommend that it be adopted at once by all our medical schools.

With these few remarks, we pass to the consideration of the defects which we find in that part of the education of the American practitioner which is strictly medical.

Now, let us inquire, are most students of medicine educated in this country? Eight months at the post, they read medicine, as it is termed, in some physician's office, and the remaining four months they have been sent to seven hospitals daily, at the same time attending upon the practice of a hospital if there be one in connection with the school, and practicing medicine if they incline to do it. As most physicians are unassisted teachers, a very large proportion of students simply apply medicine under the direction of their preceptors, and so far from being the subjects of any rigid training in their studies, they are merely told what books to read, and their inquiries are answered whenever they choose to make any. And when they come to attend lectures, these are

millinery-like visitation, or, if there is an examination of the students on each previous lesson, so little time is given to the exercise that it is of little value. The student, then, neither while attending lectures, nor while in his professor's office, is encouraged in anything like thoughtful and rigid study. Besides, there is no proper gradation in the instruction which he receives. There is no clear proper relation in the study of one department for the study of another, but all is required in a very loose and confused manner. This state of things, it is true, is obtained in a measure by the private schools for teaching medicine, which are in operation in our cities. But comparatively few, however, attend three courses of the benefits of these schools, and most students are trained in the very bad mode which we have indicated.

In the study of every science, an active reception of knowledge should be encouraged in preference to a passive reception of it. But in the study of medicine, as generally pursued, the latter is encouraged in preference to the former. The mode of study during eight months of the post-graduate term is a listless and unthinking state of mind, and in the five remaining months the student's mind is subjected to such a forced and passive reception of instruction that all genuine life, warmth, and interest, is perished. The memory is taxed to the utmost, and there is little room for the exercise of the reflecting and reasoning powers. Such a state of ill-digested knowledge, or, more, in a short time produces stupidity, and renders the mind incapable of anything like active science. Even if the student has, during the previous months spent in his professor's office, cultivated his habits of vigour and activity, his habits are entirely broken up by this passive and confused reception of such amounts of instruction, and he has little time to engage in any critical examination of concepts in which he has assimilated haphazardly. He soon loses the habit of doing so, and thus with it loses all that mental vigor which can be possessed and increased only by active thought.

Most important is commonly attached to this amount of knowledge, and measured in lectures, and much has been said of the necessity of going over the whole ground in each branch of the sciences. In the opinion of the author, the usefulness of lectures depends not so much upon the quantity of instruction given, as it does upon the mode of mind which the lecturer adopts in his address. If he takes into such course a spirit of critical investigation and scientific observation, even though he leaves much of his range of subjects untouched, he will do more toward making these successful both in studying the sciences and in possessing the art of medicine, than he would if he should make them the passive receptacle of all the knowledge which he himself is capable of.

Applying the principles which we have indicated to the question in regard to the length of the lecture term, which has been so often and so fully discussed, our conclusion would not, then, if it is long enough for some from four to six months it is indicated that in addition to the course of instruction corresponding with the addition of time, the change will be better. This would be a great step toward giving the student's mind to be made the passive recipient of such an abundance of knowledge. But, on the other hand, if in addition to the amount of instruction he is encouraged, and the added time is to be employed in an active exercise of the mind of the student by examination, what he knows, then the change is a very desirable one. It will be much toward reversing the loose habits of thought and study which the present

mode of instruction in this country has so strong a tendency to induce in the mind of the medical student.

The lecture system of our medical schools differs very widely from that of the other professions. In the schools of law and theology there are commonly given only two lectures daily; while in the schools of medicine we have from four to six, or even seven. There is some ground, it is true, for the difference, because so large a portion of medical lectures is descriptive, and the mental powers of the students are not, therefore, so seriously taxed as in lectures upon law and theology. But still the difference is far greater than it should be. There is an important difference, also, in another respect. In medicine lecturing and teaching (in the strict sense of the last term) are for the most part separated; but in law and theology the two offices are combined.

Although, for obvious reasons, we can not adopt the plan pursued in the other professions in full, yet there should be some approach to it. Lecturing and teaching should, to a great extent, be combined. Every lecture should be made the subject of strict examination at each succeeding lecture, and the whole class should be required to submit to this examination. We need not enlarge upon the benefits which would result from such a course. Suffice it to say, that it is absolutely necessary in order to insure in the case of most students that active conception of knowledge which alone can make it practically their own. And even in the case of those who are disposed to be diligent, the advantages of such a course would be very great.

It may be objected that, when the class is very large, it would be exceedingly inconvenient to execute the plan which we propose. So, indeed, it would be; but it would not be an impossibility. However large a class may be, the plan can be carried into effect by dividing the class into several portions, which can be called up for examination at the will of the lecturer. Whatever difficulties may present themselves, and however great may be the labor which this measure may bring upon the professor, it is of so much importance that it should not be dispensed with in any case. If in any school the classes be so enormously large that, with the present complement of professors, the plan cannot be properly carried out, the obvious remedy is to increase the number of professors, and thus divide the labor still further than it is now done. If a class be large, it surely furnishes material for the neglect of one of the most important means of securing to each member of it a thorough education.

This system of examination should be so far pursued, that something definite may be known of the relative standing of the various members of the class; and the lecturer should be able, on finishing his course, to select from the class those who are worthy of honors. And your constructive use of the system that a system of honors, with a regular graduation, similar to that so successfully employed in the literary institutions of our country, would be attended with beneficial results. Coupled with this, there should be prizes awarded for the best theses among those which are offered by the graduates at the examination for degrees.

It should be the object of the whole system of instruction to train the student to that exactest investigation of truth and accurate observation of phenomena which are so essential to the true success of the physician. And all the incentives which are necessary in such a training should be put into requisition. But, in the present state of things in our medical schools, these incentives to exertion and diligence are entirely neglected; and the only motives which induce the

student to desire anything more than a preparation barely sufficient to obtain his degree, such a state of things had a lure for success. The spirit of materialism, so operative whenever it is weak, is seldom suggested to and the excitement which always results from collision of mind with mind, is shut out from the lecture room. Even in those schools where examinations are proctored in all, so few of the students participate in them, and so little time is devoted to them, that they exert but a slight influence upon the course as a whole. It is no wonder then that diffidence and indolence mark so strongly the majority of the students in the lecture room.

But not only do the lecturers in our schools fail to discover what their students know of what they learn, but unluckily they do not even take the pains to determine whether the student is to any measure faithful in his attendance upon the lectures. Some plan should be adopted by which it may be known when a student frequently absents himself from the lecture room.

The error which exists in all, or nearly all, of our schools as regards to determining the scholarship of the student, is, the hospital, and in the dissecting-rooms. The evidences of his having made use of these opportunities should be discarded, and no degree should be granted in any case where they are so manifestly.

The question whether a student has an improved his apprehensions that he is prepared to practice medicine, and to the same extent to a degree, is left to be decided entirely by his final examinations. And yet it is very obvious that if the course of daily examination which we propose were pursued, and a record were kept by each professor of the standing of the student, as shown by his examination, this would supply a source of evidence as regards the qualifications of each which would be of great value in determining whether he was ready to receive a degree. With such a reliable source of evidence as our proposal, it certainly is wrong to rely wholly upon the evidence derived from a short examination at the termination of the student's course of study. And another consideration of great weight is that, if he knows that this daily examination is to have a bearing upon the final result, he will be unusually upon the alert, and this less, or frequently applied, should find less exertion.

Much has been said as regards to the manner in which the examinations of students for degrees are conducted. It has been insisted by some that they ought to be made entirely by those who have no interest in the schools, or in the fees which are paid by the graduates. Though we have great confidence in the ability of the professors in our schools as a body of men, it is not to be denied that in some of the schools the examinations have sometimes been a mere farce, and more have been dignified with the honorable title of M. D., who are hardly able to practice the medical art. And this being the case with some schools, in the midst of the rivalry which exists, the tendency is to believe that schools to which these rules in some measure, and the influence of this may extend even up to those which stand upon the most firm basis, upon where the fostering popular influence which now so much aids by schools that have not been long established. To guard against such abuses and such tendencies, it is the opinion of your committee that a plan which has been long in operation in Continental land, we believe, in some other cities, should be successfully adopted, viz., that the examining board should be composed in part of the professors in the school in each case, and in part of members appointed by the

Medical Society of the State in which the school is located. Early action would obviate the abuses to which we have referred and would also create a common bond of interest between the schools and the profession at large. We will not enter into the details of this plan, but we would merely suggest that, while the whole board should participate in the examinations, the degrees should be granted only upon a vote of the members, or that the members should have the power of setting the rate of the profession.

If the examining boards were thus constituted, and if the plan of thorough daily examinations were adopted, the "occupation" of that class of physicians, hitherto termed *graduates*, who see such a course to the medical profession, would be pure. There is no one fact which indicates a low standard of education so strongly as the existence of such a class of men. Their office is not to teach the student the science of medicine, and to fit him for the practice of the art of healing, but simply to prepare him to go through successfully a certain examination, with the details of which they have become acquainted. The problem is to effect this preparation with the least possible amount of study, for which the indolent or pleasure-loving student pays a suitable fee. It is through the agency of such instructors that many a student is enabled to obtain a degree, when he has made but rare visits to the lecture room.

It is evident that, in the examinations for degrees are unduly conducted, even when the professors act in good faith, a competent knowledge of the attainments of the candidate can not, in every case, be secured. With us short an examination as is required, accident in the selection of subjects for the examination, flippancy, self-possession, and the preparation of the "grader," will sometimes obtain enough votes to the faculty to confer a degree which is not deserved. Against such a result the plan of examinations and review which we propose is the best security. It is even better than a very thorough and lengthy final examination would be.

It is also evident that the present mode of conducting examinations for degrees permits the practice of the grossest abuses, and that too with almost perfect impunity. There is little opportunity for detection and exposure. This being the case, the intense rivalry existing between the schools has introduced a general laxness in these examinations, which has resulted, in some degree, even the best and most firmly established institutions. The general current it is not easy to withstand, and policy dictates a padding which a strict regard to honor and duty is not always able to make.

The difficulty is made still worse by the fact that the schools are more numerous than the necessities of the community demand. The inevitable result is that there is a constant tendency to deplorable competition, and the means which are sometimes resorted to in order to swell the number of students, are often such as to bring disrepute upon our profession. The self-indulgence which is often practiced, and the inducements which are held out, resemble too much the advertisements and the tactics of quackery.

Still another difficulty presents itself in attempting a reformation of existing classes. The schools are, most of them, under the control of corporations which are not in the least degree responsible to the medical profession. They are all independent bodies, and they pursue, of course, to a great extent, their separate and individual interests. No uniform plan or measure can be adopted, therefore, except by common consent. This we deem to be a radical error in

the aggressiveness of the medical school in this country. They should be under the watch and care of the profession. They should be its property. They should be among its agencies for widening its membership, a body of well-educated physicians, and should therefore be in some, either at least, under its control. The teachers in these schools should be placed there by the profession, and not by corporations that are incapable of judging of their qualifications, their place of home and rest should be in the gift of the profession, and should not be at the beck of popular frow. And no school should be established except when the necessity for its existence has been decided upon by the profession.

Exactly in what way a change should be made which will effect all this we will not prescribe. We propose the whole subject to the consideration of the Association, and of the profession, and would only suggest that perhaps the best way to secure an desirable no object would be to have each school responsible to the medical society of the State in which it is located. The State Society also might decide as to the necessity for any new school it however it should be proposed. And all vacant professorships should be filled by the profession, and one of the members of honor should be something similar to the French Council. An end should be put to the getting up of schools by partly private individuals, and to the bestowment of professorships by individuals, or upon political or religious grounds, and also to a certain amount of pecuniary risk in the enterprise. The Stamp of our science ought not then to be given a name of unpopularity.

As the result of the last decade of pseudoscience which marks the system of medical education in this country, the ranks of the physicians are very much overstocked. Statistics show this to be so. For example, in the city of New York, as noted by Dr. Stewart, in the year of 1949, there is one physician to every 100 persons. Defeating the overburden of them, it has not attended gradually in one way or another, it has lost 375 persons to each physician, and a portion of those earlier students or laboratory treatment.

But the profession is not only erudite, but a large proportion of it is made up of earnestly and vigorously men. So early as it is to obtain a diploma, they are advanced to great studies, read the Bible all around, discussing religion as a truth, and not as an historical profession. Such are eager to finish their course of study in the shortest possible time, and are ready, when they leave school, to be busy with the most diligent and successful of their compatriots in the study of the psalmic book and passages, having received the same honorable badge with them, and to take up the same traditions. And since, quacks, while engaged in the process of quackery, have been known to receive diplomas from institutions of their representatives, agree to dilate on their body.

The only way in which this enormous and swelling debt can be paid, is by the Government in future only making a rigid course of throwing absolutely necessary to the maintenance of a degree in all the schools in this country. And in this connection we remark that the objection which is made to a general reduction of business hours, that it will prevent this latter, is in our view groundless. The primary objection will be obviated by preventing the strike; but one serious point has passed upon the question of the manner in which the strike

dent should be subjected, and to the thoroughness of the tests which should be applied to decide upon his fitness for the responsible duties of the physician.

Having thus noticed, as briefly as we could, the defects existing in the system of medical education in this country, and observed their influence upon the general standard of education in the profession, let us next inquire why it is that such defects exist. Though they are, as we have seen, fruitful causes of evils, they are in themselves results of still other causes. Let us inquire what these causes are.

The chief cause is not to be found in the nature of medicine, nor in the profession, but in an influence of a strictly popular character. It is to be found in the fact that a thorough education is not as universal to persons in the medical as it is in the other professions. We see the word *extram*, of course, in its popular sense.

This fact exerts no great and no extensive an influence that we will dwell a little upon the evidence of its existence, and upon the manner in which it operates.

Education in the physician is practically judged by a large proportion of the community. Its evidence are either disregarded, or if they be extended at all, it is done in the lowest manner. None of those rigid rules are applied which are so commonly used in judging of the qualifications of men who are engaged in other occupations, even those of the most common character. Men pursue are often taken by mass of repeated good sense in choosing a cook or a cookman than in choosing a physician. A possession of superficial talents and small acquirements often succeeds better, even among the intelligent and the learned, in the acquisition of business, than one who is endowed with high talents, and is possessed of extensive and well-ordered acquirements.

Every professional man has two kinds of reputation—a popular reputation, and a strictly professional one. In the professions of law and theology these two reputations necessarily very nearly coincide. But not so in medicine. The physician may have a professional reputation of an exalted character—he may have the confidence of his brethren, not only as a man of talent, but as a judicious and skilful practitioner, to a very high degree; and yet his popular reputation may be far below that of some superficial but fashionable physician, or even some shallow but shrewd pretender. Contrasts of this kind are to be met in great abundance among the practitioners of medicine. But it is not so with the theologian or with the legal profession. No lawyer possessed of small abilities, and destitute of the respect of his brethren, can have a high standing with the community. In the legal profession, strictly professional reputation has a great and decided bearing upon popular reputation. But it does not necessarily in the medical profession. It may have in some favored localities; but generally the physician's popular reputation, and with it his pecuniary emolument, are quite independent of the standing which he holds among his brethren. In our large cities there are great numbers of physicians experiencing the misfortune above, and some of them the sufferings of penurious poverty, who have no amount of talent and good sense which in any other profession would have insured them success. And side by side with them there are many of their brethren, enjoying a large practice and a high reputation with the people, whose talents are so superficial, and whose real attainments are so limited, that, if they were brought to such tests as are openly applied in

the practice of the legal profession, they would sink below mediocrity in the public estimation. It is even worse than this. To say nothing of the success of the indigented quack, the accomplished and high-minded physician, devoted with his whole soul to the interests of science and humanity, while he struggles with care and toil, is obliged often to look out from the lap-lands of his retreat upon some plausible pretender, perhaps a scoundrel from the backwoods, surrounded with wealth, and the terror not only of fashion, but often of intelligence also.

Let us look now at the influence of such a state of things upon the character and attainments of our profession.

The motives which prompt the professional man, both in his studies and in active life, as to himself thoroughly for the performance of his duties, are of two kinds—those which exist within himself, and those which come from without. The motives of the first class are, the love of science, the sense of responsibility, and a healthy desire for true success. The enthusiasm necessary depends, for the most part, upon the condition of public sentiment. And such is the present state of public sentiment as regards the physicians—so completely artificial and ungrounded to obtain their due reward, that both the medical student and the physician are left very much in the position of the first class of teachers above. But even this is not the worst of the case. The motives which come from without are not merely *lacking* in their influence, but many of them are *perverted* for evil. They are constantly inspiring the medical man to disregard the highest motives within, and to seek at acquiring a simply pecuniary reputation irrespective of merit. And so strong is the influence of these motives, that the strictly honorable physician, contented by honest and integrity only by a constant struggle against such temptations, and a large proportion of practitioners in good standing yield even as low to the temptation, as a policy made necessary, as they think, by the state of public sentiment, and expend much of their energies which are all needed in the prosecution of the science, and in the care of the sick, upon the practice of arts and tricks which secure popular favor and pecuniary reward in the quack and the quackess.

Occasionally, it is true, the physician appears to stand upon an eminence quite above the influence of which we have spoken. But this is seldom seen, except when in interests of a high order there are added favorable circumstances of an extraordinary character. The words of Lord Bacon—"He that is only and had need have exceeding great parts of virtue, as he who had need be rich that is not without toil," is especially applicable to medical men. And as where can the toil be used to great purpose as in the practice of medicine. Often the most worthless imitations, the lowest grades of imbecility, have risen to highest grade of talent and wisdom.

The influences which we have developed in the above remarks exert their influence upon the whole profession—upon the practitioner, upon the student, upon the school; and even the professions are not upon an elevation so high that it can not reach them. The general standard of education and attainment has received its character and complexion, in a very great extent, from this influence.

There is one fact, to which we will call your attention in this connection, that merits the most serious consideration. We refer to the fact that very little of the educated talent of this country looks to very low the medical profession.

Thus we have verified by statistics. But a small inspection of the graduates of our literary institutions, we find, enter the medical profession, in comparison with those who enter the professions of law and divinity. The statistics upon which this statement is based we have gathered from eight colleges in different parts of our country, viz., Harvard, Yale, Dartmouth, Brown, Princeton, Union, Andover, and Hamilton Colleges. In no case have we gone farther back than the year 1880, because there were very few medical schools in existence before that period. We have taken the inaugural catalogues of those eight colleges, and, beginning with the first year of the present century, have extended our calculations over a space of about fifty-five years. Our statistics include 12,000 graduates. Of these 334, that is, only one in thirty and a quarter, have become physicians; while 7411, that is, one in three and four-fifths, have entered the clerical profession. The exact number of those who have chosen the profession of law we are not able to ascertain, because they are not distinguished by any mark from the other graduates; but we are satisfied, from the facts which we have been able to gather on this point, that the proportion is quite as great as that of those who have entered the medical profession.*

The reason of the fact which these statistics establish is that *divine is not a part of its reward as the medical as it is in the other professions.* This explanation, we think, can not apply to the clerical profession, to its full extent, because higher motives than those of material gain made very prominent in inducing men to enter that profession. But it certainly does apply most fully to the profession of law in comparison with that of medicine.

But there is another fact which at first may seem to be at variance with our explanation of the great fact developed by these statistics. We refer to the fact, of which there is abundant proof, that the medical profession receives its full share of the uneducated talent of the country. If we examine, however, the bearing of this fact, we shall see that, instead of its being inconsistent with our view of the subject, it sustains its truth. Wide-spread talent has been tested, and has ascertained its relative standing, perhaps in the palpable shape of lazzoni, it is far otherwise with uneducated talent. Knowing not its powers, and having never received any rewards of its efforts, it is not so calculating and

* The difference in the results of the statistics of the several colleges, whose catalogues we have examined, are interesting, in showing the influence of various circumstances upon the choice of a profession. We subjoin these results without comment. In Harvard College one in seven and one-half choose medicine, one in six and five-eighths choose divinity—in Yale, one in thirteen and seven-tenths medicine, one in three and seven-tenths divinity—in Brown, one in nine and a half medicine, one in two and a half divinity—in Dartmouth one in eighteen and a half medicine, one in three and seven-tenths divinity—in Princeton, one in sixteen medicine, one in six and one-third divinity—in Union, one in thirty-two and a half medicine, one in three and one-fifth divinity—in Hamilton, one in sixteen and three-fifths medicine, one in two and three-fifths divinity—in Andover, one in eighteen medicine, one in two divinity.

We are aware that these statistics are not entirely correct. In making up the inaugural catalogues, the professions which is chosen by the graduates is not in every instance ascertained. Still the numbers from this cause, we are satisfied, are not sufficient to affect seriously the general result at which we have arrived. The defect is probably greater at the case of Union College than in any other, in relation to those who are designated as having chosen the medical profession.

illustrated in these poems, and more widely follows whose reflection and simile had it. And as the flow of the southern profession it firmly agreed, and as unbrokened about was that it was ripe with educated talent with more hope of success than it was in that world of letters, it is attracted more largely to that than it is to the other professions.

But our knowledge of literature would seem a fair indication of the case which we have given of the subject. We have found that of those who have received honors in our colleges, the proportion most has chosen the medical profession it would think that study has caused it from the whole body of graduates. Thus in Harvard, where one in seven and one-third of the graduates take honors in physics, but one in seven and a half of the members of the Phi Beta Kappa Society (which generally comprises the best third or nearly that in point of talent and consequently has chosen one profession). In Yale College also, one profession was chosen by more than half the members of all the professions, but by more than one-third of the members of the members of the Phi Beta Kappa Society. And if we take the highest honors in Princeton, where one in thirty and a half become a physician—during the last year we take the class in the college is equal to three, the one in the proportion of those who enter the medical profession. A similar result is found in the statistics of Hamilton College. While the medical profession was chosen by one in seven and three-fifths of the graduates as a body, it was chosen by only one in twenty-five of those who were freshmen in the several classes of that institution.

The interest of the work of things developed by the above statistics is suggested by the fact that the medical profession continues to grow larger than it has in the other professions. And if the number of educated men who become physicians were equal to the number of those who choose the professions of law or divinity, the proportion of educated to uneducated letters would be nearly two in the medical than in the other professions.

The interest further of our profession is connected with the great fact that uneducated professionals very largely were educated about among medical men in this country. While there is no lack of energy in institutions, more of a great work of character of style and of character in reasoning. There is an abundance of loose observations, and random sentences, and sentences but little thoughtful, but uneducated words are not to be regarded as to be found of more illustration and interest in place of argument. One instance of this great need of more searching criticism, as we note in the Report of William Wells and Laboratory, by Dr. Holmes, and of such was recently as we give in that of Yale from the part of Dr. Stone.

Both being the condition of the medical profession in this country, and now being the profession which need to depend on principle of education and ability with it because we have had inquiry, but we consider by what means that state of things is to be remedied.

Three kinds of measures divide themselves from those classes:

- 1st. Those which aim at remedying the defects pointing to the matter of education.
- 2d. Those which aim at a reform in the spirit and progress of the profession.
- 3d. Those which are designed to provide a similar reform in the spirit and practices of the community at large, or reform in the medical profession.

The first class of errors have already been considered, in noting of the defects and abuses which appear in our mode of education. And we would simply remark here, that although great changes are required in order to remove all these defects and abuses, they must be for the most part gradually introduced. Any precipitate movements will be disastrous. Let there be the utmost freedom of suggestion and discussion, to prepare the way for our change after another; but let no movement be made which cannot be sustained by the public sentiment of the profession. Dissatisfaction is sometimes expressed when there are no positive marks of advance in the action of this Association. But it should be remembered that there is a real advance continuously resulting from the very agitation of the subjects which are discussed, and that any positive acts on our part are not so much crimes, as they are evidences of such advance. The impatient reformer must wait a little, and he will see that the many minds which are thinking and speaking not only here, but in the multitude of subordinate associations and smaller accidental circles throughout our land, are not thinking and speaking in vain. The result in due time will come.

In regard to the second and third classes of measures, we remark that there is much in common between them, and that they must exert a great influence upon each other. Reform in the profession, therefore, must go hand in hand with reform in the community. It is in vain to expect that the public will give up its quackery while the profession hold on to theirs. That the spirit of quackery does exist in the medical profession to a lamentable degree, there is abundant evidence in the abuses which it has engendered. And an inquiry into the measures which should be adopted for the removal of these abuses is not only pertinent to the subject of medical education, but is absolutely essential to the development of some of the most important means of raising the standard of education and civilization in our profession. This standard, and the standard of professional honor and morality, are to a great extent mutually dependent, especially where the voluntary principle has so much influence as it has in this country. The moral and intellectual conditions of the profession must, in the nature of the case, very nearly correspond, and an examination of the facts in any community will furnish conclusive evidence that they do.

With these preliminary remarks we proceed to notice the second class of measures, *viz.*, those which aim at a reform in the spirit and practices of the profession.

One of the means of removing the abuses which exist in our profession is to expose and attack them. While this should be done thoroughly and fearlessly, it should also be done with a candid and conservative spirit. Any exposure of those abuses which is made with a wrong spirit does harm. It may furnish the material of very bad and interesting articles, which may greatly excite and the issue of battle, and may be very acceptable to the friends of those who are attacked; but they hardly either than advances the progress of true reform. The spirit which dictates such exposures is contrary to that spirit which alone can remove and improve. It is as unwise medical as it is of other reform, that there are some reformers who are in abundant need of being reformed themselves.

We are aware that exposures of abuses prevailing among medical men are eagerly sought for by the enemies of our profession, and are indistinctly used in the way of calumny which they wage against it. But this should not induce us to shun altogether so efficient a means of reform as such exposures furnish us, but it should serve to teach us caution in the manner in which we make them. The fact that exaggerated and unnecessary exposures do harm is no reason for our entire abandonment of existing abuses. Though with the utmost caution it is impossible wholly to prevent misapprehensions and misinterpretations on the part of our enemies, this caution should not deter us from our honest and useful performance of our duty. It is an unwise policy for our profession to forbid, by an unwieldy measure, the honest and confidence of the community, from the fact that what we say of ourselves may be occasionally used as weapons against us.

Another means of removing abuses existing in the profession is to apply to them a wholesome discipline. This is now a remedy which should be often applied. The attempt to do so would keep the profession in a constant struggle. But glads and nervous eyes ought not to peer anxiously, as they now very constantly do. The physician who possesses the arts of the quack ought not to be permitted to retain his standing in the profession. An example should certainly be made of all such men.

But the chief means of removing abuses which we have in our hands is the influence that can be exerted through the organizations of the profession. This influence is of a compound character—moral, social, and scientific. And these three classes of interest in which this influence is born are by no means independent of each other; but the social privileges and the professional virtues of medical men here, as we have already hinted in another connection, are inseparably linked upon these scientific attainments and character.

These organizations are as yet very imperfect, and are, therefore, comparatively inefficient. We do not yet know how much good they can be made to accomplish. Many express themselves skeptically in relation to their usefulness, and are reluctant to meet even the small expense which it needed to maintain them. But the amount of good which results from them even in their present imperfect state is very great, and can only be estimated by comparison with those associations where no such organizations exist. And when they shall be perfected, the extent and value of their influence will be incalculable.

The voluntary principle requires great power in associated action. These organizations are, therefore, to do a peculiarly important work in the profession in this country. But, in order to do this, they need to be strengthened, and the members of the profession must be brought more generally and thoroughly under their influence. At present, the great mass of the profession have but a feeble connection with these associations. All the influence which they have depends upon the action of a few individuals, who are willing to sacrifice time and labor for the general welfare, in face of obstacles, and that spirit of all discouragements, the shifting influence of personal selfishness. And their efforts are too much confined to the larger associations. There are comparatively few local associations, although with small diseases and the periodicals, and occasional meetings at once of a social, literary, and scientific character, such associations would do vast good not only within their limited circles of influence, but to the whole body of the profession. They

would give life and efficiency to the large association; and not only so, but in giving they would also receive.

There are great sources of influence in medicine, as well as in every other department of knowledge and effort. *Weighty associations, therefore, rest upon medical men in our cities.* With them associated action, if pursued for good or for evil, should be made as general and as perfect as possible. It should not be left to such solitary associations. These do good; but the good which they do is limited, and it is marred by abuses which are inevitable accompaniments of such narrow action. *Chapman sought to keep his, and it sometimes exerted as deleterious an influence that many could not call associations altogether speculative good.* But even abuses are better than an utter absence of association. They do more good than harm; and the harm which they do is generally, in a great measure, controlled by the influence of counter-balances. If a general and thorough system of associations were a fair operation, for strictly voluntary associations, as clubs, would be more greatly subservient to the common interest of the profession than they now are, because their liability to abuse would be very much obviated.

In every large city there should be one general association, with subdivisions cast in the different directions where the pay should be divided, leaving each relation to the general association as every member bears to state societies. These associations should be so regulated, and such efficiency should be given to them, that it would be for the interest of every physician to be a faithful member, if he wished to maintain a respectable standing with the profession and with the community. And if this were the case, even where success results from dishonesty and quackery could not continue, so they now often do, as a question of policy, a timely mutual connection with the associations of the profession, but they would be obliged to take these proper places in the ranks of undignified quackery.

Association is the great means of counting and bringing into action a social public sentiment among medical men. It, therefore, gives power to professional influence, and neutralizes those popular influences which tend to corrupt the honor of the physician, and to depress the standard of professional attainment. Knowing this, the practitioner, whose chief object is to obtain a really popular reputation, as the means of pecuniary advancement, will throw a line off from the loose lines of association with the profession. If he does not stand wholly aloof, let connection with our organizations, which is at best but a loose one, be regulated entirely by the principles of elevation, or, if, perhaps, a new line is needed, let him practice the same society, and, therefore, the more effectively, the arts and tricks of the charlatan.

The social influence of association never wrong to confer benefits. Individualism is almost an essential element of the jealousy, and squabbles, and backbitings which have so often brought misdeeds upon our profession. And on the other hand, there have no fewer evils, as rather pessimists, than is to be found in what may be termed a *socialistic socialism*. If physicians meet together in the natural experiment, even though the discussion be sometimes warm, and the heat of opinion be vigorous and obstinate, a friendly feeling will bear rule, especially if the desire be to spread, and an influence will be left which can not be destroyed when each retreat again to his own individual sphere of action. This sustained influence of frequently repeating returns of

medical improvement and enjoyment further against the temptations to a dishonorable competition, which an unbridged individualism is apt to engender among medical men.

It is by no means a small consideration, in estimating the value of association, that it wiles for the profession the esteem and confidence of the public. The train of men, for sounder purposes always best able. And there is nothing which has done so much to weaken the confidence of the community in the medical profession as the jealousies and dissensions which have grown out of a selfish and narrow individualism.

Such being the advantages of association in our profession, it is the duty of every physician to do all that he can to give to our organizations character and efficiency. If all who desire that the standard of medical character and ability shall be raised, would turn their influence into that object, a great change would at once be effected in the condition of the profession in this country. The demagogue, who so much disgraces our profession in the eyes of the public, would be driven from our midst. Public sentiment, both among medical men and in the community at large, would be renovated; and consequently the value of professional reputation would rise, while that of a merely popular one would fall, even to a source of contempt. A system of our education would be vigorously preserved, and our schools would cease to send forth such numbers, as some of them now do, of unqualified physicians, to give currency to error and delusion in medicine, to destroy health and life, and to bring contempt upon our noble science. The medical character of our country would be transformed by the change. It would be placed in correspondence with the improvement in the education of the profession, and it would be enriched by the vast resources of knowledge and experience, which would be gathered in by the multitudes of associations all over our land.

Such being the value of a well organized and efficient system of associations, the establishment of the National Association may well be regarded as one of the glories of medicine in this country. This great congress of our professional powers and disciplines influences which are moulding the medical character, and affecting the interests of medical science in every part of our land. And it has so considered the situation of medical men in the whole subject of associated action, that there is a general movement in relation to it in the whole body of the profession. New associations are continually forming, and those which have long been established have a new life and greater efficiency.

In connection with the nature of organizations, it becomes an interesting inquiry, what should be the legal position of the profession. It is manifest that it can not be the same in this country that it is in some other nations. It must be conformable to the genius of our institutions. It must recognize most fully the voluntary principle. Any plan that does not recognize this can not succeed. It is in vain to attempt the enforcement of any direct legal restrictions upon the people in regard to medicine, if they choose quacks and quackery, no law which would forbid such abuses can succeed in this country.

That there should be some laws in relation to the medical profession there is no question. But the aims which are necessarily entertained in regard to the scope and object of these laws, are somewhat different even among medical men. In the opinion of the subscriber the objects of these laws should be mainly three—to give protection to the patients which are calculated to secure to the

community a well-educated body of physicians. Everything inconsistent with the attainment of this object should be discarded. No class of physicians, professionally and exclusively devoted to any system of opinions and practice, should at such receive such protection. The medical profession should be a single body of men without any powerful set of opinions. And the process of admission to their ranks should have no influence in opinions; but there should be the greatest latitude in this respect. Character and education should furnish the only basis of membership.

We are persuaded that, if the profession as a whole should take this view of the subject, we should stand in a much better position before the public than we now do. We should then be able to propose to the community the question, closed and stripped of all incidental and embarrassing considerations, whether they would sustain an educated or an uneducated profession. We should stand simply and directly upon our merits in this respect, and should command the respect and confidence of the great majority of the community. But, whenever other grounds are taken, and opinions are made in any degree the basis of admission or expulsion, we lose this respect and confidence, for we enter into competition with opinionists of every grade, and upon their own level. At this moment, the strife between the regular profession and other self-constituted medical bodies, is regarded by even sensible men in the community as being for the most part a war of opinions. And some ground is given them for this view of the subject, by occasional acts by individuals, or even by some of our associations.

Homoeopaths, and other irregular practitioners, desire to perpetuate this state of things. They aim, continually, in book, pamphlet, and conversation, to make the impressions which are requisite to keep up few false issues, that is as favorable to their interests. Homoeopaths would have the public believe that the contest between them and Allopaths (as they are pleased to style us) is between two different classes or sects of educated physicians, and simply in regard to theories and opinions. And it is for this purpose that they establish their societies and schools of medicine. This movement is all for mere show, and has not originated in any belief that education is needed to prepare men for the practice of Homoeopathy. It is a well-known fact that the great majority of Homoeopathic physicians are uneducated men, or at least men who are very partially educated, and the shrewd among the adherents of this system know that the uneducated, furnished with book and pamphlet, are as well qualified to practice it as they themselves are.

If we are correct in our position, the grounds upon which the granting of charters to Homoeopathic, Therapeutic, Eclectic, and other so-called medical institutions, has been opposed by the profession, have not always been suitable. Such applications should be opposed *directly*, and *only*, upon the ground that such institutions interfere with that system of education which secures to the community a body of well-qualified physicians; and not at all upon the ground that error dangerous to the community will be taught in them. The institutions of the regular profession itself are by no means free from error, and sometimes erroneous and dangerous errors have been taught within their walls. And if error be taken as the ground of exclusion from privilege, where, we ask, shall the line be drawn? Who shall say what amount or kind of error shall be the ground of exclusion?

We are aware that a different view has been taken of this subject by some medical bodies in relation to Homoeopaths. Some physicians, who have avowed their conversion to Homoeopathy, have been excluded from the ranks of the profession simply for that reason. We find no fault with the exclusion, but only with the grounds upon which it was done. They should have been excluded, not for their opinions, but for mismanagement. Any act by which they associate with the common herd of Homoeopathic practitioners is a scandalous act, which is a proper ground of expulsion. And it is so, because it casts contempt upon the necessity of those measures and precautions which we are to the community a well-educating medical profession, and not because it gives countenance to a destructive error.

If the profession should take the position in regard to this whole subject that we have indicated, the plain arguments against the granting of charters to irregular and sectarian medical institutions would be done; that, there being no restriction in the profession as regards opinions, all new doctrines can be freely examined, and if they have any show of reasonableness they will find advocates among medical men, and will become subjects of discussion in the schools, and thus, therefore, it is wholly unnecessary to establish any new school in order to give them a fair chance of being propounded. The alleged recovery by such a measure is the case of any new doctrine, it could be most cheaply claimed, is good proof that it has no foundation in truth, and is wholly unfounded. An appeal might be made to the whole history of medicine to show this to be true. It could be shown that no doctrine which has continued upon the smallest nucleus of truth has failed to find advocates in the profession, and to obtain some judgment for a time in some of the schools of medicine.

If the ground should be distinctly and firmly taken by the great body of medical men, we should then stand before our legislators and the community upon a basis which would command full in the judgment of every reasonable man. But any act, on the part of physicians, which involves in any degree upon freedom of opinion, presents our looking successfully this broad ground before the public. Such acts are a great source of embarrassment to the profession whenever we oppose the granting of charters to irregular schools of medicine. To make this question clear, it is essential that we be able to show to the community that the profession, as a body, stand upon the basis which we have indicated. And the committee, therefore, considered this subject to the attention of the profession throughout our country, that the principles which should govern our action in relation to it may be definitely understood and established.

There is one legal provision that was once in force in some of the States, but is now abolished in most if not all of them, which deserves a passing remark. We refer to that provision which gave to regularly licensed practitioners the exclusive privilege of practicing their line by law. This privilege, once so much prized by some, we consider to be of no real value to the profession. It is a mere permissive distinction; and while it renders at best but a doubtful benefit, it has no influence in raising the profession, the amount and confidence of the public, and supplies a fatal theme for the many declamations of patriotic and benevolent friends of monopolies. The only distinction which the

profession should desire, or should seek, on the ground of policy, is that which is based upon a thorough system of education.

It remains for us to consider the third class of means to be resorted to in remedying that state of things which tends to depress the standard of medical education, viz., those which aim at producing a change in the public sentiment in relation to our profession. On this subject we must be very brief.

There is some difference of opinion among medical men in regard to the propriety of using the means to which we refer. Some think that the propriety to cure and to quackery in the community had better be left to itself, and that it is in vain to attempt to deliver the dupes of medical delusions from their error by the force of argument. This opinion is very distinctly manifested in the Report on Medical Literature of last year, from the pen of Dr. Stillé. The opinion we allow to be well founded in regard to those who are the confirmed dupes of quackery. No reasoning will ever reclaim them. Nothing short of a radical change in their habits of mind will do it. But it must be remembered that such constitute only a minority of the vast numbers in the community who lend their influence to the non-scientific forms of quackery, in opposition to a well educated profession. The great majority of these are not men who are thoroughly tainted with the spirit of delusion; but they are more or less rational in their views, and their minds can be influenced by reasoning in relation to medicine. And the constancy which most of them give to empiricism is only occasionally given, and is at variance with their general course of conduct.

It is among this large floating class of the patrons of quackery that we may hope to produce a salutary impression in favor of rational medicine and an elevated profession. The importance of doing this may be learned from the fact that the opinions of this class of men go far toward constituting that public sentiment which has so deleterious an influence in depressing the standard of medical attainment and education. Among them are many men from all classes of society, of acknowledged good sense and discriminations; who, for reasons which it is not necessary here to give, are divided and divided especially on the particular subject of medicine. It is this want of influence, in the various circles of society, whose opinions it is important to change, and we believe that with the use of the proper means it can be done.

The only way to insure the errors of this large class of the community is that old and homely way so effective in removing error on other subjects—the presentation of truth. This is to be done in conversation, by articles in popular periodicals, and by books. Each physician can do much by conversation with intelligent men in his own individual circle. If a general effort of this kind were made throughout the profession, in connection with the circulation of books of a proper character, a great change might at once be produced in the public sentiment. But the effect must be made in the right spirit. Unmannered attacks upon quackery do no good. Raising voices against any error of his class. Confidence in the power of truth, and charity toward the commission propensity of the human mind to err, should teach physicians patience in their attempts to convince their fellow-men of their errors on so abstract a subject as medicine. The lesson of patience will be the better learned, if we remember that most of the popular medical errors had a common origin with some

that have prevailed among medical men, and that with a few such there rise first in the profession, and afterwards spread among the people. And we should also remember that an attempt at a reform in the public sentiment of the community at large can be successful, when it is accompanied with a corresponding reform in the public sentiment, and consequently in the practices, of the profession itself. The delusions and the prejudices which exist among medical men are the chief obstacles to the removal of those which prevail in the community.

We have therefore a general view of the causes of the low standard of medical education and attainment in this country, and of the means which should be employed in counteracting their influence, or in removing them. Too much importance, we think, has been generally attached to those means which are direct, and too little to those which are indirect in their application. Though these latter have been very *generally* lost sight of, we deem them to be quite as essential as the former, in a system of efforts for the improvement of our profession. Believing that one of our duties is one of the prominent means of removing abuses and promoting advancement, we have expressed our views in this respect with all plainness and freedom. While we have done so, we have endeavored to avoid all over-statement and selfishness, and to present the truth on every point exactly as it is. We ask for these views a candid and dispassionate consideration from the profession, and we can not but indulge the hope that they will meet with a kindly response in all parts of the country, and that the measures which we recommended will be zealously and persistently prosecuted.

As a summary of the principal views presented in this Report, the Committee offer for your consideration the following resolutions:—

Resolved, That the abuses which exist in the modes of medical education pursued in this country demand the serious consideration of the profession.

Resolved, That free discussion in relation to these abuses and their causes is an expedient means of effecting their removal.

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this Association, no effort to remove these abuses can succeed that is not based upon a reform in the public sentiment both of the profession and of the community.

Resolved, That this object, so far as the profession is concerned, is to be effected mainly through its representations, and that it is therefore incumbent upon every physician to do all that he can to give them character and efficiency.

Resolved, That this Association have confidence in all proper efforts which have for their object a reform in the sentiments and practices of the community in relation to medicine and the medical profession.

Resolved, That the recommendations of this Association at its former meetings as regard its education, both preliminary and medical, be reaffirmed, and that both the schools and private preceptors be still urged to do their duty as to secure to the community a well educated profession.

Resolved, That, in the work of medical reform, while all party spirit and dissension should be avoided, we should aim at a steady advance from year to year till a thorough system of education be established by the profession throughout our country.

Report of the Committee on Medical Education in relation to "Demonstrative Midwifery."

At the last meeting of the Association, there was referred to the consideration of this Committee a subject which has recently excited much interest throughout the profession in this country, and upon which there has been much difference of opinion. We allude to what has been termed *Demonstrative Midwifery*.

Though the committee think that the examination of this subject could have been made thoroughly and satisfactorily in the journals of the profession, and that its reference to us was therefore unnecessary; and though we have felt from the first that, if referred at all, it should have been referred to the Committee on Operations; yet, in obedience to the decision of the Association, we have prepared our views in regard to it, and are ready to present them. We risk, however, that it may be done as a special report by itself. The main report lies, in its view of the general subject of medical education, a unity and completeness which would be impaired by the introduction of a matter that is incongruous and irrelevant to its scope and design.

As the relevance of this subject to the Committee grew out of the course which had recently been pursued in one of our medical schools in teaching midwifery, it will be proper to present the facts of the case before we proceed to state the rules by which we think that the practice of teachers in this branch of medicine should be governed.

The professor of Midwifery in the Buffalo Medical College introduced a pregnant woman into the family of the post-mortem, a short time previous to her confinement, for the purpose of instruction in obstetrics to the graduating class. It is proper to state that all that was done in the case was with the free consent of the woman herself. She was examined with the periscope, and the position of the child was thus ascertained previous to the commencement of the labor. When the labor took place, the graduating class, numbering about twenty, were assembled in an adjoining room, and during the process one after another was admitted singly to the sick room, and made an examination by the touch, under the direction of the professor. When the labor was about to terminate, the class were called into the room, and, as the head emerged from the vulva, the clothes were raised, so that this concluding part of the process was made visible to the class.

The statements of this instance differ somewhat as to the amount of the exposure; but this is not a very important point. The great question which has been the subject of discussion has been whether there should have been any exposure at all. Those who advocate its necessity consider it of so much importance in clinical instruction in obstetrics, that they speak of it as constituting a new era in the teaching of this branch of our art in this country, and have given to this new mode the name of *Demonstrative Midwifery*. And, on the other hand, those who are opposed to it are very positive in the opinion that there is no need of such exposure, and that this new mode is wholly unnecessary, and therefore an improper innovation.

It is to be regretted that this subject has been brought at all upon the popular press. It is wholly a professional question, and should be discussed by the profession in a calm, considerate, and dignified manner. It is no subject for

newspaper warfare, nor for a warfare in medical journals in newspaper style. No suppositions should be cast upon the motives of the parties concerned. A distinction should always be made between those who honestly differ in opinion from their brethren, and those who are governed by the base motives of the pecuniary character; and also between those who oppose practices which they think to be improper, with sincere, though perhaps not ardent zeal, and those who do this from a malicious or meddling spirit. The consensus here expressed is withdrawn themselves from the contending currents of popular feeling, and to look upon the subject in all its bearings with equanimity, and they hope that the results of the considerations which they have given to it will commend themselves to the judgment of the whole profession.

We will first remark upon some of the general principles which relate to the subject, and then apply them to the particular case before us.

It is a false, though very prevalent idea, that a sacrifice of modesty is required on the part of females in the treatment of every case of disease. When, however, we attend her whole case in the case of an intelligent and amiable physician, submitting to whatever treatment may be necessary for the due investigation and for the cure of her malady, she makes no sacrifice of a virtuous and rational modesty. The daily experience both of physicians and patients proves this to be true. For, whatever modesty may be required, there is nothing that transcends, in the confidence of professional intercourse, that times in the least that mutual respect which is the basis of civilization and enjoyment in the common social intercourse of life, when manners be employed that are necessary. It is only in such a case that there must be on the part of the patient a sacrifice of modesty, or an inhibition of decorum. The very idea that a sacrifice is necessary, and that one must be forced to be a martyr of duty, precludes the idea that it is essential. The experience of every virtuous patient testifies to the truth of this statement.

Another very common error on this subject is to attach the idea of modesty especially to the use of the sense of sight, in distinction from the use of the sense of touch. The use of neither sense is inadmissible when it is necessary, and the use of the touch is just as admissible as that of the sight, whenever it is not needed in the treatment of the case in hand.

The same principles which apply to the practice of medicine apply also to the instruction of students in preparing them for practice. Whatever measures are necessary for this purpose involve no transgression of the principles of modesty and propriety.

The simple question then to be decided is, whether the mode of instruction developed to us in the case before us, and styled by its advocates demonstrative (anatomy) is necessary in the preparation of students for practice. To decide this question, let us look at the advantages which have been claimed to belong to this mode of instruction.

It can not be pretended, and we believe is not by any one, that anything can be learned by the right way in the moment of the completion of the labor. Admitted that most minutely be learned by the touch alone.

There are four advantages claimed to attend an exposure to the sight of the conclusion of the process of labor. We will notice each of these separately—

1st. The student sees the manner in which the head of the child, as when even part presents, emerges from the os pubis. All that is of practical use in regard to this can be so well learned from descriptions and plates, and from

exhibitions on the machines commonly used in the lecture room, that there is clearly no need of an exhibition of the living subject to prepare the student on this point in practice. And whenever he does not learn in regard to it by these means, can be learned by the touch in the first case upon which he is called to attend. No practitioner ever had any desire to see the perineum just emerge under the arch of the pubis for any additional knowledge that might be gained by such an exposure.

Of. By an exposure of the parts to the right at the conclusion of the labor, the student is impressed with the importance of supporting the perineum. On this point we simply remark that if any student can not be properly impressed with the importance of this act by the teachings of his preceptor without actual demonstration, he has too full an appreciation of truth and responsibility to take upon himself the office of a physician.

3d. The exposure contended for shows the student the manner in which the perineum should be supported. In learning how to do a manual operation, which, when learned, is to be done without the guidance of sight, the use of sight is not needed except when the operation is a difficult or complicated one. That supporting the perineum is an operation of that character, can not be pretended. It is almost as simple as yet as can be conceived of, and the student who needs the aid of his eyes to learn how to do it had better retire at once to some occupation which requires less tact and talent than the practice of medicine. In the case before us, the woman used a catheter, which, unless it was very skilfully managed, must have prevented the timely inspection from seeing very distinctly the exact manner in which he supported the perineum.

4th. This exposure resulted, to the satisfaction of the students, the diagnosis of the position is regard to the position of the child. But a resort to such evidence for this purpose is certainly unnecessary. The diagnosis can be verified by the touch on the part of the student during the progress of the labor; as it can be taken at the end of the perineum, which ought to be satisfactory.

Granting all that can be claimed with any plausibility for the advantages mentioned, they are not of sufficient value to make it proper that women in the line of her career should be made the subject of a public exhibition.

But we not only object to the mode of instruction, adopted in the plan at Buffalo, as unnecessary, but we object to it, also, as being utterly incompetent to give the student that knowledge which he needs in the practice of obstetrics. It can not take place at all of what very properly is termed Clinical Instruction in Midwifery. A single busy examination by the touch in the course of the labor, and a view of the conclusion of the process, can supply the student with but a very small part of that practical knowledge which he needs when he comes to take charge of patients upon his own responsibility alone. This knowledge he can obtain effectively only by taking the care of cases of midwifery during his pupillage under the supervision of his preceptor. A single case, thus managed, will teach him more than a multitude of such exposures as that which was made in the Buffalo Medical College possibly could do.

The whole subject of the relation of the profession to women is one of great interest. And it will not be deemed improper, if the committee apply the principles which they have laid down, to other professions besides that which has been especially referred to them for their consideration. The confidential relation existing between women and our profession, so essential to the full and

proper treatment of her disease, may be inspired either by the passion of individuality, or by those which every person may generally in the profession. From misfortune, therefore, is needed on this point. The strict, both of the individual practitioner and of the profession, should be to meet most fully the demands of science and humanity, and not to offend conscience, the paternal feeling, nor give maintenance to an unfeeling haughtiness. But these are positions upon ground which would afford room which proved the full attainment of this stage on the part of the humane practitioner.

To illustrate our meaning, we will come to the use, or rather abuse, of the vaginal speculum. The very common and indiscriminate application which has been made of this instrument by students and hobby-riders, going far beyond the bounds of necessity, and therefore of propriety, has constituted a most unfortunate in the professional intercourse of humane and judicious physicians with their female patients. Devoid of the aims of the operation is necessary and judicious purpose of their dissection there somewhat to the use, and the suspicion and prejudice which this abuse has engendered in relation to the medical profession against the delicacy. The clamor thus thrown in the way of the use of this instrument by some of its distinguished advocates have undoubtedly prevented its being employed as much as it should be by the great body of the profession. The argument which they so often make in regard to it, that it ought to be in no instance used as an oblique one, may not be true, if the principles which we have laid down be correct. A very free use of it is not necessary, and it is therefore a transgression of the rules of propriety and propriety.

We are not intent on coming to this conclusion, the influence of vulgar opinions upon the professional intercourse of the physician with his female patients. When these ideas in our day are modified, they are not but a limited influence. But when they are held in the lecture room or in a popular assembly, as we are employed as medical students or as dissemblers of men on the pages of medical journals, they inflict not only a pain, but a serious injury upon the profession.

It is principally the prejudice which constitutes practice toward medical men have engendered in the public mind, that has given rise to the prejudice in treating female practitioners of medicine. The project will, in almost every case, be imprudent, and chiefly because the community generally will become convinced that, although some physicians are guilty of transgressing the rules of propriety and modesty in their intercourse with their patients, medical men, as a body, are persecuted men, and that their honor, as well as their merit, is worthy of the acknowledgments of the public. And let it not be remembered that the intimate and peculiar relation which the physician holds to the mother and daughter in the families upon which he attends, is a relation of a sacred character, and that the professions are bound to throw around it all those safeguards which are necessary to preserve inviolate the honor which is the bond of its sanctity.

X. Lett. 1840



PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SIXTY-FIRST ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

Connecticut Medical Society,

MAY, 1853,

WITH A LIST OF MEMBERS.

HARTFORD:

PRESS OF CASE, TIFFANY AND COMPANY.

1853.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

RICHARD WARNER, M. D., PRESIDENT.
WM. H. COGSWELL, M. D., VICE PRESIDENT.
GEORGE O. SUMNER, M. D., TREASURER.
JOSIAH G. BECKWITH, M. D., SECRETARY.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Committee of Examination.

RICHARD WARNER, M. D., *ex officio*.
P. W. ELLSWORTH, M. D.
H. N. BENNETT, M. D.
J. G. BECKWITH, M. D.
E. LINSLEY, M. D.
LEWIS WILLIAMS, M. D.

Committee to nominate Physicians to the Retreat for the Insane.

ALVAN TALCOTT, M. D.
M. W. WILSON, M. D.
S. T. SALISBURY, M. D.
L. THURSTON, M. D.
F. L. DICKINSON, M. D.

*Committee to nominate Professors in the Medical Institution of Yale College. **

JUSTIN HAMMOND, M. D.
REMUS M. FOWLER, M. D.
ROBERT HUBBARD, M. D.
O. K. ISHAM, M. D.
WM. C. WILLIAMS, M. D.

The Annual Convention of the President and Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society, now held at Gilman's Saloon, in the City of Hartford, May 11, 1853.

The Convention was called to order by the President, when the certificates of the election of Fellows were presented by the Secretary, and referred to a Committee consisting of Drs. Goodsell, Emiga, Isaac G. Porter, Pike, Dickinson, Woodruff, Syc, and A. L. Williams, who reported the following list of

FELLOWS.

MARTINEAU COUNTY.

C. W. Emiga, M. D.
A. S. Warren, M. D.
E. D. Pollock, M. D.
H. C. Barnes, M. D.
Wm. Porter, M. D.

NEW LONDON COUNTY.

A. T. Douglas, M. D.
Geo. E. Palmer, M. D.
Homer Thomson, M. D.
Elijah Dyer, M. D.
T. G. Parker, M. D.

WINDHAM COUNTY.

Lewis Williams, M. D.
Wm. Woodbridge, M. D.
Nathan S. Fox, M. D.
Stephen C. Egge, M. D.
Dyer Hughes, M. D.

WINDHAM COUNTY.

Elijah E. Syc, M. D.
A. B. Worthington, M. D.
J. Henshaw, M. D.

NEW HAVEN COUNTY.

Isaac Goodsell, M. D.
S. G. Hubbard, M. D.
J. N. Boardley, M. D.
W. Hooker, M. D.
David L. Daggett, M. D.

LITCHFIELD COUNTY.

William Woodruff, M. D.
Geo. Seymour, M. D.
D. B. Camp, M. D.
D. S. Higgins, M. D.
Ed. B. North, M. D.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY.

— Williams, M. D.
*A. P. Tinkler, M. D.
*George Dyer, M. D.
*F. J. Judson, M. D.
*H. S. Barr, M. D.

DOLLARD COUNTY.

Frederic L. Dickinson, M. D.
Emerson Linsley, M. D.
O. K. Linsley, M. D.

The President, Rufus Blakeson, M. D., then read an Address on Medical Organization and the Biography of the older Physicians of Fairfield County, and declined a re-election.

The following gentlemen were then elected officers of the Society, for the ensuing year, viz.

RICHARD WARNER, M. D., President.

WILLIAM H. COGSWELL, M. D., Vice President.

GEORGE O. SUMNER, M. D., Treasurer.

J. G. BECKWITH, M. D., Secretary.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention be tendered to Rufus Blakeson, M. D., for the able, dignified, and impartial manner with which he has filled the office of President of the Society, and also for his excellent address delivered by him this day, and that a copy be requested for publication.

Drs. A. S. Warner, S. G. Hubbard, A. T. Douglas, Wm. Woodbridge, A. P. Tiekner, D. B. Camp, E. Linsley, A. B. Worthington, were appointed a Committee on Unfinished Business.

A communication was received from E. K. Hunt, inviting the Convention to visit the "Retreat for the Insane." Invitation accepted.

Worthington Hooker, M. D., then offered the following resolutions expressive of the sense of the Convention in reference to the recent disaster at Norwalk, and the loss to the profession of several distinguished members of the Connecticut State Medical Society, which were unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That while we sympathize with the many whose homes have been made desolate by the recent catastrophe at Norwalk, the loss to the medical profession of so many of its most valued members, by that event, awakens within us the deepest feelings of sorrow.

Resolved, That the peculiar circumstances under which this loss has come upon us and upon the community, occurring as it did at the close of the largest meeting of medical men ever held in this country, and immediately after its grand festive gathering, while the members were returning with joy to their homes, give a peculiar impressiveness to this event.

Resolved, That, while in common with the profession throughout the land, we mourn the loss of all those brethren that were taken out of life thus suddenly, we are especially afflicted by the loss of two of

our number, so much esteemed and loved by us all, Dr. Archibald Welch, of this city, and Dr. Samuel Beach, of Bridgeport; and, while we express our sorrow, we feel ourselves incited by the memory of their bright examples, to greater diligence and faithfulness, both as physicians and as men, in the short and uncertain life allotted to us by Him who has our lives in his hands.

Resolved, That, while we thus mourn, it is proper for us, as medical men, to express thus publicly our views and sentiments in relation to the causes of this catastrophe, and the means of preventing similar events in future.

Resolved, That the great truth so fully and constantly recognized by our profession, that responsibility in relation to human life has a peculiar sacredness, seems to be to a great extent forgotten by both individuals and companies, to whom the lives of multitudes on our numerous thoroughfares are daily intrusted.

Resolved, That the very prevalent carelessness, both in the selection of individuals for important and responsible posts, and in the adoption of obvious and necessary precautions against accidents, deserves the most emphatic rebuke from the community, and urgently calls for the immediate enactment of stringent laws on this subject on the part of our legislatures.

Dr. Beckwith also presented the following preamble and resolutions, which were adopted by the Convention, viz.

Whereas the Almighty Disposer of events in his wise and mysterious providence, hath taken from us by a violent and instantaneous death, our late highly respected President, Archibald Welch, M. D., and also our much respected Fellow and Dissertator, Samuel Beach, M. D.;

Therefore, *Resolved*, That in view of the recent terrible Railway Disaster, by which this Society has lost two of its most valuable members, one of whom, Arch'd Welch, M. D., had been for many years, President of this Society; the other, Samuel Beach, M. D., had been appointed a Dissertator to this Convention; we recognize the agency of a wise and merciful providence which has removed by violent deaths from the midst of life while in the discharge of all the high responsibilities of their professional life, two members of the Society eminently combining in their several characters, high intellectual and professional endowments, great personal worth, and other elements of moral greatness and Christian excellence; therefore,

Resolved, That while we deeply sympathize with the relatives and friends of the deceased, in the irreparable loss which they have sustained, we commend them under these afflictive dispensations, to *Him* alone who can bind up the crushed and wounded spirit, even when in the dark and mysterious ways of his providence, (and sometimes, as in the present instance, by terrible agencies,) he removes his faithful and devoted servants from the stormy and troubled scenes of their earthly existence. Let them be assured, that "although clouds and darkness are round about him, Justice and Judgement are the habitations of his throne." And they rest from their labors and "their works do follow them."

Resolved, further, That copies of these resolutions be signed by the officers of the Convention, and forwarded to the families and friends of the deceased; and also entered upon the journal with our proceedings, as an evidence of the just appreciation in which we hold the memory of our deceased brethren.

Drs. Hooker and Beckwith were appointed a Committee to carry out the above resolutions presented by them to the Convention.

Dr. Catlin then presented the following resolution in behalf of those members of the Society who were exposed to the same peril with those who were lost in the disaster, and escaped destruction.

Resolved, That while we mourn the loss of two of our members by the recent accident at Norwalk, we can not refrain from expressing our gratitude that so many of our number were, by marked providences, preserved from sudden death, and are permitted still to continue in their labors.

Dr. Douglas presented the following resolutions, by instruction of the New London County Medical Society.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to petition the Legislature in behalf of the Convention for an act to compensate physicians for making post mortem examinations in criminal cases, when requested by the proper authorities.

The Committee on Unfinished Business reported that the several Committees on Materia Medica, Practice of Medicine, and Surgery were continued to the present Convention from the last Annual Convention. Dr. Knight informed the Convention through a member that he was not aware of his appointment until very recently, too late to report at this time. He preferred to select a more interesting topic than the general history of the improvements in Surgery

for the last fifty years, and suggested the history and progress of Surgery for the last fifty years in Connecticut.

Subscription accepted, and the Committee continued, and on motion of Dr. W. Hooker, the following resolution was adopted.

That the Committee on Surgery of which Dr. Knight is chairman, be requested to report at the next Convention on the Progress and History of Surgery for the last fifty years in the State of Connecticut.

Resolution unanimously adopted.

The action of the Fairfield County Medical Society on the resolution referred back to them for their action, reported that they had expelled the offending members.

Report accepted.

Dr. S. G. Hubbard then reported the following resolution continued from the last Convention.

Resolved, that the several County Meetings are hereby instructed to continue their investigations in relation to the manufacture, sale, recommendation and use of nostrums or Patent Medicines by their members, and to present for trial any member so offending.

Resolved, That no member of this Society, who is directly or indirectly interested in the manufacture, use or recommendation, or a sale of any nostrum or Patent Medicine, shall be eligible to any office.

Drs. Hubbard, E. Dyer and Isham appointed Committee on the above resolutions.

Dr. Douglas then offered the following resolution.

That a Committee be appointed to report whether it would seem proper and expedient to increase the number of Fellows, and reduce their debenture bill.

Drs. Douglas, Daggett, Babcock, Huggins, Isham, Hutchinson, and Geo. Dyer, were appointed said Committee.

The Treasurer's report was then read, accepted, and a Committee appointed to audit the same, consisting of Drs. Seymour, Nye, Jackson, L. Williams, Thurston, Beardley, Porter.

Abstract of Treasurer's Report.—Financial Summary.

Cash in the Treasury,	\$215.31½
Due from Clerks,	\$1,134.35½
Deduct say one-third of this for bad debts, payments, commissions,	378.25

Leaves,	756.50
Total Cash and due from Clerks,	\$972.81½
The Society owes as above for Debentures outstanding,	\$369.75
Leaves Balance in favor of Society,	\$603.06½

Des. Hubbard, G. Dyer, Woodbridge, Beers, North, Isham, Hutchinson and Dickinson, were appointed a Committee on Debentures.

The Convention then on motion, proceeded to fill vacancies in the Standing Committees, when on balloting it was found that Ebenezer Lindsey, M. D., and Lewis Williams, M. D., were appointed to fill the vacancies in the Committee of Examination.

L. Thurston, M. D., and F. L. Dickinson, M. D., to fill the vacancies in the Committee to nominate Physicians to the Retreat for the Insane, and Myron W. Wilson, M. D., to fill the vacancy occasioned by the decease of Dr. Archibald Welch.

O. K. Isham, M. D., and W. C. Williams, M. D., to fill the vacancies in the Committee to nominate Professors in Yale College.

Drs. Goodsell, E. Dyer, Pike, Burr, Camp, Isham, Porter and Worthington were appointed to nominate Honorary Members, and Candidates for the Honorary Degrees of Doctor of Medicine.

Dr. W. Hooker, Thurston, and Williams were appointed a Committee to nominate Delegates to the National Convention.

Drs. W. Hooker, E. Dyer, and E. B. Nye, were appointed a Committee to nominate Dissertator for the next Convention.

Adjourned to four and a half o'clock, P. M.

Four and a half o'clock, P. M.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Dr. Seymour from the Committee appointed to audit the Treasurer's Report, reported that they had examined said report and found it correct.

The Secretary received a communication from P. A. Jewett, M. D., stating that he had been prevented from appearing before the Convention with his dissertation by urgent necessity, until he learned that the Convention had probably adjourned.

Dr. W. Hooker, from the Committee to nominate Dissertator to the next Convention, reported the name of William B. Casey, M. D., of Middletown, and he was accordingly appointed.

On motion of Dr. S. G. Hubbard,

Resolved, That the Dissertation of the late lamented Dr. Samuel Beach be procured and published with the proceedings. Passed unanimously.

Dr. W. Hooker, from the Committee to nominate Delegates to the National Convention, reported the following gentlemen, viz.

Geo. Sumner, E. H. Bishop, A. Woodward, H. N. Bennett, M. D's.
Report accepted, and they were appointed said delegates.

Dr. Segesser from the Committee on Gratuities Students, reported that the following gentlemen were elected from the following counties, viz.

Hartford county,	Edward Seymour.
New Haven county,	W. S. Manger,
New London county,	C. E. Dyer.
Litchfield county,	Henry Pierpont.
Tolland county,	E. J. Tuzzle.
Middlesex county,	C. A. Griswold.

For vacancies in Fairfield and Windham counties, Geo. T. Barrows, John B. Doughty were recommended.

Report accepted and the vacancies were filled by Messrs. Barrows and Doughty.

Dr. S. G. Hubbard from the Committee on Patent Medicines, reported in favor of the resolutions offered by him in the morning.

Report accepted and resolutions adopted.

Dr. Elijah Dyer from the committee on Honorary Degrees and Honorary Members, reported that it is inexpedient to report any candidates for either Honorary Degrees or Honorary Members.

Report accepted and Committee discharged.

Dr. Hubbard from the Committee on Debentures, reported a bill which was read, accepted and ordered to be paid.

Moved that when this Convention adjourns, it adjourns to meet at the Retreat for the Insane, at 8 o'clock, to-morrow morning.

On motion, a tax of one dollar and fifty cents was levied on each member, payable on the 1st June next.

Dr. Douglas from the Committee on alteration of the number of Members and Fellows, made the following report:

That the subject be referred back to the County Societies recommending them to instruct their Fellows how to act in the matter at the Annual Convention; report not accepted.

Adjourned to 8 o'clock, A. M.

Thursday, 8 o'clock, A. M.

Committee on Registration reported that they had attended to the duties of their appointment—their opinion was that the law was in some respects imperative.

Report accepted, Committee discharged.

The Committee on the New London Co. resolutions, reported the following resolution.

That a Committee of three be appointed to petition the Legislature for a law providing for a reasonable compensation for making post mortem examinations when employed by the proper authorities for that purpose.

Drs. J. Olinstead, Beckwith and Beresford appointed Committee to petition the Legislature for that purpose.

Dr. L. N. Beardsley offered the following resolution, viz.

The Connecticut Medical Society see with regret that efforts are making by certain individuals to deprive the late Dr. Horace Wells of his right as discoverer of the principle of Anæsthesia by inhalation of gases or vapors.

It is therefore resolved, That this Convention express their conviction that to Dr. Horace Wells, and him alone, belongs this honor, and all rights which are justly due, who has made, demonstrated, and published this discovery.

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to confer with the Committee of the Legislature in relation to this subject.

Drs. Ellsworth, Holmes, and Wilson appointed said Committee.

Dr. Beckwith presented the following resolution.

Resolved, By the Connecticut Medical Society in Convention assembled, that after a careful and thorough examination of the Retreat for the Insane in Hartford, we are convinced that the cause of suffering humanity, and the best interests of society, demand that the appropriation for the insane poor be increased in conformity with the recommendation contained in the message of his Excellency the Governor to the Legislature at its present session.

Resolution passed unanimously, and Dr. Ellsworth, Beckwith and Denning appointed said Committee.

Dr. Ellsworth, from the Standing Committee of Examination, made

a report which was accepted and ordered to be printed with the proceedings. See Appendix "A."

At the suggestion of Dr. Ellsworth, the following resolution was offered by Dr. Beckwith, as a recognition of the services of B. Silliman, M. D., LL. D., to the cause of Medical Science.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Connecticut Medical Society are due to Benjamin Silliman, LL. D., for the faithful and very satisfactory manner with which he has discharged the duties of Professor of Chemistry in the Medical Institution of Yale College, and that in his retirement from the chair which he has filled with such eminent ability, he has our best wishes that his future life may be as prosperous and happy, as it has been fortunate, for the advancement of Chemistry and the Natural Sciences.

Dr. Sumner then moved that the Secretary furnish Dr. Silliman with a copy of this resolution.

On motion then adjourned *sine die*.

Attest,

JOSIAH G. BECKWITH, Secretary.

MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

*FELIX PASCALIS,	New York,
JAMES JACKSON,	Boston, Mass.
JOHN C. WARREN,	Boston, Mass.
*SAMUEL L. MITCHELL,	New York.
*DAVID HOSACK,	New York.
*WRIGHT POST,	New York.
BENJAMIN SILLIMAN,	New Haven.
*GEORGE M'LELLAN,	Philadelphia, Pa.
*JOHN MACKIE,	Providence, R. I.
*CHARLES ELDREDGE,	East Greenwich, R. I.
THEODORE DOMEYN BECK,	Albany, N. Y.
*JAMES THATCHER,	Plymouth, Mass.
EDWARD DELAFIELD,	New York.
JOHN DELAMATER,	Cleveland, Ohio.
*WILLIAM P. DEWEES,	Philadelphia, Pa.
*JOSEPH WHITE,	Cherry Valley, N. Y.
JACOB BIGELOW,	Boston, Mass.
WALTER CHANNING,	Boston, Mass.
*PHILIP SING PHYSIC,	Philadelphia, Pa.
*LEWIS BEERMAN,	U. S. Navy.
*DANIEL DRAKE,	Cincinnati, Ohio.
HENRY MITCHELL,	Norwich, N. Y.
NATHAN RYNO SMITH,	Baltimore, Md.
VALENTINE MOTT,	New York.
*SAMUEL WHITE,	Hudson, N. Y.
REUBEN D. MUSSEY,	Cincinnati, Ohio.
WILLIAM TULLY,	New Haven.
RICHMOND BROWNELL,	Providence, R. I.
*WILLIAM BEAUMONT,	St. Louis, Mo.
SAMUEL HENRY DICKSON,	Charleston, S. C.
*SAMUEL B. WOODWARD,	Northampton, Mass.
*JOHN STEARNS,	New York.
STEPHEN W. WILLIAMS,	Dorchester, Mass.
*HENRY GREEN,	Albany, N. Y.
*GEORGE FROST,	Springfield, Mass.
WILLARD PARKER,	New York.
BENJAMIN TUCKNOB,	U. S. Navy.
ALDEN MARCH,	Albany, N. Y.
*AMOS TWITCHELL,	Kennebunk, N. H.
CHARLES A. LEE,	New York.
DAVID S. C. H. SMITH,	Providence, R. I.
*JAMES M. SMITH,	Springfield, Mass.
HENRY D. BULKLEY,	New York.
J. MARION SYMS,	Montgomery, Ala.
JOHN WATSON,	New York City.

ORDINARY MEMBERS.

The names of those Members who are exempt from taxation by age, are in italics; the names of those who have been Presidents of the Society, are in capitals.

HARTFORD COUNTY.

ARCHIBALD WELCH, M. D., Chairman.

J. C. JACKSON, M. D., Clerk.

HARTFORD, GEORGE SUMNER,
Henry Holmes, Samuel B. Benedict,
George E. Hawley, Gordon W. Russell,
David Cary, P. W. Ellsworth,
Benjamin Rogers, E. B. Hunt, John
S. Butler, H. A. Gane, F. C. Jackson,
A. W. Barrett, Thomas Munn,
M. W. Wilson, William Porter, Ber-
trand Gridley, Charles T. Kohn, John
H. Wells, William E. Brownell.
WEST HARTFORD, Edward Green.
Ayer, Alfred Kellogg.
BETHAN, E. Boardman, Jr.
NEW BRITAIN, Samuel Hart, Russell
Hawley, E. D. Babcock, E. N. Con-
ings.
BLOOMFIELD.
BARTON, Joseph W. Camp, John S.
Moody.
BURLINGTON, William Elton, Ed.
Cullisville, Russell H. Tiffany.
EAST HARTFORD, Eli Hall, Seth L.
Child, Charles M. Newell.
EAST WINDSOR, Henry Warren,
Grove Brook, Marcus L. Fish.
HARTFORD PARISH, Joseph Chabert.
KENTON, J. P. Corcoran, A. L. Spald-
ing.
THOMPSONVILLE, J. Bailey Beach.

PARSONAGE, Amiel Thompson.
PLIMVILLE, G. A. Moody.
GROSVILLE, William H. Page.
GLASTONBURY, Ralph Carter, Clinton
Baker.
South Glastonbury, C. E. Hammond,
Lester J. Andrew, Henry Gilbert.
FAIRBURY, Selah Bucking.
GROTON, James Case, Joseph F. Jewett.
East Groton, Charles Harlow.
WEST GROTON, Justin D. Wilcox.
MANCHESTER, W. C. Williams, W. Scott.
EAST HART, Sylvester Buckley.
SHREVE, Frederick A. White.
TAYLORVILLE, George W. Bradford, Charles
W. Knight.
SOUTHBRIDGE, Julius S. Barnes, S. B.
Sprague, F. A. Hart.
SOUTH WINDSOR, Horace C. Gillette,
Edney Rockwell, William Wood.
STEVENSVILLE, Samuel H. Low, Arthur Ri-
sing.
WETHERFIELD, E. F. Cooke, A. S.
Warner, A. S. Fox.
WINDSOR, William S. Pierce, Albert
Morton.
WINDSOR LOCKS, Samuel W. Sargent.
POPESTOCK, Oliver B. Griggs.

NEW HAVEN COUNTY.

JOEL CANFIELD, M. D., Chairman.

S. G. HERRICK, M. D., Clerk.

NEW HAVEN, *City*, T. P. Berr, Jonathan Knight, Samuel Pendleton, A. S. Mason, Charles Hodder, H. B. Porter, Nathan B. Lee, E. H. Bishop, E. D. North, J. A. Tamm, Levi Lee, May A. Jewett, D. L. Dugger, George O. Pearson, D. A. Tyler, Henry Stanton, E. A. Cook, N. M. Taylor, Dr. S. G. Hubbard, A. Moody, W. J. Wilting, A. C. Eakins, H. W. E. Mathews, C. A. Lindsay, Washington Hooker, Charles Hyatt, T. P. Berr, Jr., Westville, Samuel Lepl, Fair Haven, C. S. Thompson, W. M. White, Lymon Parker, Easton, Am C. Woodward, Easton, Wiloughby L. Loy, Harvey H. Way, Canaan, A. J. Briggs, Derby, H. A. Carrington, Ansonia, Samuel P. Church, Birmingham, Andrew Kennedy, T. Shill, Hamden, Edwin D. Swift.

Hamdenville, Abram Stoddard, Sheldon G. Johnson, Joshua Kendall, Thomas Stoddard, East Haven, Edw. Parsons, Grafton, Joel Canfield, Alfred Tallent, Hamden, Arnold Hild, Meriden, Gustavus Barlow, West Meriden, H. H. Carter, Edward W. Hatch, Middletown, Milford, Hall Allen, L. N. Borsley, New Britain, J. D. Meigs, Timothy Langdon, North Branford, Sheldon Borsley, North Haven, Robert T. Robinson, Norwalk, A. B. Bantam, South Branford, S. C. Eklund, Wallingford, R. T. H. Harrison, New Britain, H. C. Levensworth, G. L. Felt, John Dunton, George E. Perkins, M. H. Perkins, Stages Balfey, Woodbridge, Isaac Goodell, Andrew Carter.

NEW LONDON COUNTY.

JOSEPH DUFFEE, M. D., Chairman.

ALBERT HANSON, M. D., Clerk.

NEW LONDON, *City*, J. Brewster, Nathaniel S. Perkins, James Morgan, Isaac G. Foster, Wm. W. Moore, Seth Smith, C. C. Cook, D. P. Francis, Albert Holman, Robert A. Munroe, Frank D. Haskings, Norwich, Richard P. Tracy, Eleazer Ogden, Elijah Dyer, Jr., Eliza Palmer, John D. Ford, Edwin Bentley, Benjamin S. Davis, John P. Felt, Almon Fuller, Hiram Thornton, Henry W. Lewis, A. W. Cook, ROUTE, Samuel Johnson, COLONIA, Elisha H. Parsons, Fredrick Morgan, EAST LONDON, John L. Smith, Austin F. Perkins, FRANKLIN, Ashbel Woodward, GREENWICH, GEORGE, Joseph Barlow, PORTLAND, Elias F. Cook.

Norwich, A. T. Douglas, LEXINGTON, Joseph Comstock, Ralph P. Green, LEXINGTON, Gale's Ferry, Rufus W. Matherson, LEXINGTON, LYNN, Richard Noyes, John Noyes, North Lyme, Wm. W. J. Warren, MONTICELLO, Ephraim Pillsbury, Samuel E. Hartwood, CANTONVILLE, Jedediah H. Gay, John C. Bates, NORTH BRANFORD, Thomas E. Watson, Arval Gay, PRATT, Avery Dummer, Elmore R. Dummer, POPESTON, Henry E. Randall, SAGE, BROOKLYN, William Hyde, George E. Palmer, William Hyde, Jr., MYRTLE, Mason Manning.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY.

GEORGE BLACKMAN, M. D., Chairman.

F. J. JONES, M. D., Clerk.

FAIRFIELD, S. B. W. & Son, Druggists.
 GREENFIELD, Rufus Blackman.
 SOUTHPORT, John Maybrook.
 BUCKFORD, Dr. H. NICH, Physician.
 J. TADDER, L. W. BARTON, WILLIAM
 B. NICH, Robert Hilditch, H. A.
 BROWN.
 GREENFIELD, Noah J. Love, L. L.
 WILLIAMS.
 BUCKFORD, R. B. BARNETT, E. P. BOW-
 WELL.
 ARTHUR.
 DUNSTON.
 EASTON, James Hilditch, William P.
 TUCKER.

DUNSTON, James R. Shilton.
 MORGAN, William H. Hall.
 NEW CLIFTON, Samuel S. Nye, Lewis
 RICHARDS.
 NORMAN, John A. McLean, Geo. Hogg-
 ST.
 SPURMAN, David W. Northrop.
 STANFORD, N. D. Haight.
 SYCAMORE, William T. Nelson.
 TOWNSEND, ELIJAH MIDDLEBURY,
 B. R. OAK, George Lyon.
 WATSON, George Blackman, David
 S. BURN.

WINDHAM COUNTY.

WM. H. CORNWELL, M. D., Chairman.

JAMES H. WHITCOMB, M. D., Clerk.

BROOKLIN, James B. Whitcomb, Dr.
 of M. Hale, William Woodbridge.
 ANDOVER, John H. Sturgeson.
 DUNSTON, Eliza Roberts, James
 Palmer.
 DUNSTON, Orren White.
 HARTFORD, David Houghton, Wm. Smith.
 KILLBUCK, Joseph, James Hays,
 Samuel.
 NORTH KILLBUCK, Daniel A. Hovey.
 EAST KILLBUCK, E. F. HILL.
 WEST KILLBUCK, David E. Hall, Samuel
 Hilditch, Stephen U. Griggs.
 WINDHAMVILLE, Henry W. Hough,
 Thomas W. Perry.
 FARMINGTON, William H. Cogswell.

FAIRFIELD, Samuel P. O., Mary Bur-
 gess, Nathan S. Pike, Clark Hild-
 itch, J. A. Hilditch, Joseph.
 FARMINGTON, Maria Hall, Lewis Wil-
 liams.
 FARMINGTON, William A. Love.
 FARMINGTON, Samuel Brown.
 FARMINGTON, Henry Campbell.
 WINDHAM, Charles Hilditch, Dr. Wm. C.
 Latham.
 WINDHAM, John Hill, Jr.
 WINDHAM, Calvin B. Hilditch.
 WINDHAM, Keith, Ann White.
 NORTH WINDHAM, Leonard Hovey.
 WEST WINDHAM, Milton Fredrick,
 Charles H. Rogers.
 EASTON, Henry Gray.

LEITCHFIELD COUNTY.

SAMUEL T. SALISBURY, M. D., Chairman.

GEORGE KERRICK, M. D., Clerk.

LEITCHFIELD, Samuel And. J. O. To-
 well, George Seymour, D. E. Bur-
 well, Charles V. E. O'Brien.
 SOUTH FARM, Gary H. Miles.
 HARTFORD, P. D. O'Brien.
 BERNARD, G. O. Gould.

BARNSTABLE, Harlow Jones.
 CANTON, A. A. Wright, George Adams,
 Thomas H. Smith.
 SOUTH CANTON, John A. O'Brien.
 CANTON, Barret E. Smith.

West Cornwall, Samuel W. Gold, D. C.
 Spencer.
 North Cornwall.
 Cornwall, Seth Foster.
 Gopher's Bridge, General H. McJannet.
 Goshen, A. M. Hadley.
 Haverhill.
 Keat, Wells Beardsley, John C.
 Hatch, L. E. Smith.
 New Haverhill, Center.
 New Haverhill, Abiel Williams, Wm.
 E. Lacy.
 North, William W. Welch, E. D.
 Haggan.
 Plymouth, Samuel T. Salisbury.
 Plymouth Mills, William Woodard.
 Roxbury, Myron Brown.

Salem, O. Alcock, Wm. Woodard.
 Litchfield, Benjamin Welch, Jr., John
 H. Welch.
 Saxon, Ralph Denney, Clarence
 Deed.
 Whitestock, Emma Hancock, W. K.
 Whiting, J. W. Phelps.
 Warren, O. Brown.
 Westbury, Mary Peters.
 Waverham, E. M. Fowler.
 New Preston, Sidney H. Lyman, Ed-
 ward P. Lyman.
 Waverham, Samuel Cardin, Jr.
 West Waverham, James Welch, H. G.
 Westlake.
 Wrentham, Charles H. Webb.
 Tryonville.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY.

IRA HUTCHINSON, M. D., Chairman.

ELMER E. Nye, M. D., Clerk.

Middlebury, Joseph Barrett, Charles
 Woodward, William B. Cady, Dan-
 iel Harrison, Franklin Woodard,
 Eliza R. Nye, George W. Parker.
 Chatham, Francis G. Edgerton.
 Middlebury, A. B. Worthington.
 Chatham, S. W. Turner.
 Chatham, Daniel H. Hubbard.
 Chatham, Richard Warren.
 Chatham, Benjamin M. Fowler.
 East Chatham, Joe M. Mah, Doro
 Wilbur.

Hartford, Ira Hutchinson.
 Middlebury, William H. Turner.
 Middlebury, Richard M. Bond.
 Chatham, George O. Jarvis, Stephen
 Fuller, G. C. H. Gilbert.
 Chatham, Asa H. King.
 Chatham, Alexander H. Hough,
 Frederick W. Shepard.
 Deep River, Esther Baker.

TOLLAND COUNTY.

GILSON WOOD, M. D., Chairman.

GILBERT H. PIERCE, M. D., Clerk.

Tolland, Abiah Ladd, Oliver K.
 Leland, Gilbert H. Pierce.
 Andover, Abigail White.
 Bolton, Charles F. Pierce.
 Columbia, Harrison McIntosh.
 Coventry, North, Eliza West.
 So. Coventry, T. Denck.
 Ellington, Allen Hyde, Harriet Dow,
 J. H. Manning.
 Henson, JOHN S. PETERS, Oliver
 C. White, Elijah A. Woodward.

Middlebury, North, Northern English,
 W. H. Richardson.
 South Middlebury, Earl Avery.
 South, Green Wood, Emma E.
 Hurdman.
 Chatham, East, William S. Clark,
 Eliza S. Becker.
 Stafford, West, Nelson C. Budget.
 Upton, E. Lindsey.
 Vernon, Allen Sargent.
 Andover, M. M. Finkle.
 Wallingford, Francis L. Dickinson.

SUMMARY OF ORDINARY MEMBERS FOR 1883, WITH THE DEATHS
IN THE YEAR ENDING, APRIL 1, 1883.

	Taxable.	Not Taxable.	Total.	Deaths.
Blanford County,	65	9	74	8
New Haven County,	68	19	79	1
New London County,	35	11	46	1
Putland County,	73	5	78	0
Windham County,	31	5	36	0
Litchfield County,	42	4	46	0
Middlesex County,	53	9	62	0
Tolland County,	31	0	31	5
Total,	395	52	447	2

DEATHS OF MEMBERS DURING THE YEAR ENDING, APRIL 1,
1883, SO FAR AS REPORTED.

New Haven County, S. W. Clark, of Watlingford, Prolapsed, April 30.
New London County, Vine Smith, Lister's Chronic Hepatitis, aged 52.

DUTIES OF CLERK.

To write *County Meetings*.

To record the proceedings of the *County Meetings*.

To collect the taxes, and pay the same to the Treasurer.

To transmit to the Secretary a list of the elected Fellows, and the persons recommended as a candidate for a gentleman's course of lectures, immediately after the *County Meetings*, for publication.

To make certificates of disbursement, to be transmitted to the Secretary, on or before the first day of the Convention.

To transmit duplicate lists of the Members of the Society, to the Secretary and Treasurer, on or before the first day of the Convention, in the penalty of ten dollars for each neglect.

To return to the Treasurer the names of delinquent Members of the Society.

To report to the Secretary of the State Convention, on the first day of its session, the names, ages, and diseases of the Members of this Society, who may have died during the year preceding the 1st of April in each year, in their several County Sections.

RULES OF ORDER

1. Organization.
2. Certificates of Membership presented and read by Secretary.
3. Committee on the election of Fellows.
4. Address of President.
5. Election of officers for ensuing year.
6. Unfinished business of previous year disposed of.
7. Reception and reference, without debate, of Communications, Resolutions, &c., from the several Counties, and members of the Convention.
8. Reading Treasurer's Report.
9. Committee to audit the same.
10. Committee on Debentures.
11. Standing Committees appointed.
12. Committee to receive Delegates to National Convention.
13. Committee on Candidates for positions *ex officio* of Officers.
14. Committee on Honorary Degrees and Honorary Membership.
15. Committee to nominate Treasurer.
16. Dissertation.
17. Reports of Committees appointed on County Conventions, Resolutions, &c.
18. Reports of Standing Committees.
19. Reports of Committees in the order in which business was brought forward in Convention.
20. Miscellaneous business.

DISSERTATIONS READ IN CONVENTIONS.

1794. Dr. S. H. P. Lee, on *Annual Bilious Fever*.
 1794. Dr. Gibson Shepherd, on the *Properties of Opium*.
 1795. Dr. F. P. Oviere, on the *Preparations of Antimony*.
 1795. Dr. Thaddeus Betts, on the *different species of Colds*.
 1795. Dr. F. P. Oviere, on the *Contagion of Yellow Fever*.
 1796. Dr. S. H. P. Lee, on *Cynanche Tonsillaris*.
 1796. Dr. Lewis Collins, on the *most eligible mode of increasing Medical Knowledge in this State*.
 1796. Dr. Gibson Shepherd, on the *same subject*.
 1798. Dr. Samuel Hopkins, *case of Bilious Concretion*.
 1798. Dr. Jared Pomeroy, "An Essay."
 1799. Dr. Thaddeus Clark, a *Dissertation*.
 1800. Dr. Nathaniel Dwight, on *Lithiasis*.
 1804. Dr. Samuel Willard, on the *Stafford Mineral Waters*.
 1817. Dr. W. R. Foster, on the *deleterious effects of Ardent Spirits*.
 1818. Dr. William Hook, on *Ergot*.
 1820. Dr. Thomas Mison, on *Typhus Fever*.
 1821. Dr. Samuel Rockwell, on *Urethral Hemorrhage*.
 1822. Dr. William Tully, on the *Yellow Fever at Middlebury*.
 1823. Dr. Dyer T. Brainerd.
 1827. Dr. Samuel B. Woodward, on the *Biography of the Physicians of the State*.
 1829. Dr. George Sumner, on *Extra-uterine Conception*.
 1836. Dr. Charles Hooker, on *Diseases of the Ear*.
 1835. Dr. Benjamin Welch, Jr., on the *Viridity of the Blood*.
 1836. Dr. E. H. Bishop, "Influence of Moral Emotions on Disease."
 1837. Dr. Archibald Welch, on *Scarlet Fever*.
 1838. Dr. Isaac G. Potter, on the *Disease commonly denominated Spinal Irritation*.
 1838. Dr. Henry Bronson, on the *Mental Qualifications necessary to a Physician*.
 1840. Dr. Richard Warner, on the *Advantages of prompt and efficient practice in Acute Diseases*.
 1841. Dr. Amariah Brigham, on *Insanity as a subject of Medical Jurisprudence*.
 1842. Dr. Charles Woodward, on *Urine Irritation*.
 1843. Dr. Pickney W. Kildworth, on *Phlebotomy*.

1844. Dr. Worthington Bookers, on the respect due to the Medical Profession, and the reasons that it is not awarded by the community.
1845. Dr. Nathan B. Ives, on Laryngismus Stridulus.
1846. Dr. Theodore Sill, Observations on Typhus Fever.
1847. Dr. E. K. Hunt, on the Importance of a Medical Organization, and the advantages resulting from it.
1848. Dr. B. F. Barker, Remarks on some forms of disease of the Cervix Uteri.
1849. Dr. Alexn Talcott, on Hygiene.
1850. Dr. Johnson C. Hatch, on Medical Jurisprudence.
1851. Dr. George Sumner, on the Early Physicians of Connecticut.
1852. Dr. Rufus Blakeman, Early Physicians of Fairfield Co.
1853. Dr. Samuel Beach, on Popularizing Medicine.

APPENDIX A.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXAMINATION.

The Examining Committee convened on Wednesday, January 25th, and continued in session two days.—Present on the part of the Connecticut Medical Society:—

Rufus Haskins, M. D., of Fairfield, President;

Benjamin Welch, M. D., of Salisbury.

Abiel Woodward, M. D., of Franklin.

Pinckney W. Ellsworth, M. D., of Hartford.

Harriet N. Bennett, M. D., of Bethel.

Joseph G. Burdette, M. D., of Litchfield.

On the part of Yale College—Prof. B. Skinner, J. Wright, T. P. Hunt, C. Barker, and W. Hooker.

Fifteen candidates were examined and recommended for the Degree of Doctor in Medicine, viz:

1. Eliza Campbell Baker, Providence, N. H., on "A Treatise on Medicine."

2. William Tinsleyson Booth, "A.," Williams College, New York, on "Scarlet Fever."

3. Joseph Bailey Eliot, Trenton, N. J., on "Epilepsy."

4. Evelyn Warren Judson, Bridgewater, on "Gastritis."

5. Wm. Huntington Leonard, Chelsea, on "Typhoid."

6. Harriet Perry Lynn, Boston, on "Child."

7. Charles Augustus Noy, Lodi, N. Y., on "Intussusception."

8. Charles Edward Sargent, Plainville, on "Epilepsy."

9. Harriet William Stone, Woodbury, on "Gonorrhea."

10. Paul Chester Still, Kent, on "Mental Influences on Disease."

11. Lucian Anthony Smith, New Haven, on "Elementary Principles of the Inflammation."

12. Hamilton Stone, B. A., Andover, on "The Language of the Deaf and Dumb."

13. Albert Fenn Tinkner, Taunton, on "Dysentery," with the Valdehusen Address.

14. Maria Elizabeth Winchell, Durham, on "Epilepsy."

15. William Walton Wood, New Haven, on "Scarlet Fever."

Benjamin Welch, M. D., of Salisbury, of the Board of Examiners, gave the Annual Address to the Candidates.

The Degree was conferred, on Thursday evening, by President Woolley, Frederick W. Ellsworth, M. D., of Hartford, and Harford N. Bennett, M. D., of Bethel, were appointed to give the annual addresses, in 1884 and 1885.

Dr. Ellsworth was appointed to report the proceedings of the Board to the President and Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society.

Prof. Silliman gave notice that he had resigned his Professorship, and that with this resignation terminated his official connection with the Committee; and he accordingly now took leave of the Board; whereupon the following resolution was offered by Dr. Tuckwith, and unanimously adopted:—

Resolved, That the thanks of the Committee of Examination in the Medical Institution of Yale College are due to Benjamin Silliman, LL. D., for the faithful and very satisfactory manner in which he has for forty years discharged the duties of Professor of Chemistry in this Institution; and we join with unfeigned regret, that he has retired from the chair, which he has so long filled with such distinguished ability.

Adjourned, sine die.

The Committee would state, that the candidates with a single exception were well prepared, passed with this exception unanimously, the addresses were very appropriate, and the Commencement exercises were well received by a large and highly respectable assemblage of Physicians and other citizens.

For the Committee,

F. W. ELLSWORTH

New HART, June 2nd, 1885

The Committee in assembly Professor in the Medical Institution of Yale College, met this evening at the house of Rev. Dr. Day.

Present on the part of the Corporation of Yale College, President Theodore D. Woolley, Rev. J. Day, D. D., Prof. B. Silliman, LL. D., and on the part of the Connecticut Medical Society, Justin Marston, M. D., Robert Hubbard, M. D., William C. Williams, M. D.

Rev. Dr. Day was appointed Chairman, and Robert Hubbard, M. D., Clerk.

The resignations of Professors B. Silliman and Eli Fess were communicated. Whereupon Henry Drexler, M. D. and Prof. Benj. Silliman, Jr., M. D., were unanimously nominated as Professors in the Medical Institution of Yale College.

Resolved, That this Committee recommend that Professors B. Silliman and Eli Fess, be continued as *Emeritus Professors* in the Medical Institution of Yale College.

Amos,

ROBERT HUBBARD, Clerk.

ADDRESS

OF THE PRESIDENT, RUFUS BLAKEMAN, M. D.

GENTLEMEN:

It is known to you that my predecessor, Doct. Sumner, in his interesting address to this Convention, furnished many interesting details relative to the early history of medicine in Connecticut, together with biographical sketches of some of the most eminent physicians who flourished in the early periods of its history. The address alluded to possesses great value, not only as affording data for noting the progress which our profession has made in the successive eras of its history, but likewise as a record for revealing from progressing oblivion the names of individuals of worth and existence, to whose labors we are, in no small degree, indebted for the present advanced respectability which the medical profession in Connecticut sustains.

There can be little doubt that in the early history of Connecticut, and probably that of our country generally, a large portion of medical practice was in its character empirical. For a considerable period subsequent to the first settlement of the several towns, far the largest part of medical prescription was dispensed by root and Indian doctors. Although the more considerable villages early possessed their so-called regular physicians, yet many of these did not blush boastfully to announce their paternity to nostrums and pretended specifics for particular, or for all diseases, as interest might dictate; and this solely with the view of inciting public attention toward themselves, and seducing patients from their professional neighbors.

In such a condition of professional morals, it is little surprising that a state of hostility and antagonistic feeling, should, generally,

have existed, such as is well known to have characterized the medical society of former times. In the several counties of the state however, exceptions were occasionally found, of physicians of a more honorable and elevated character, who not only labored to reform the moral habits of the profession, but also to advance its scientific respectability and usefulness.

Although a retrospect into our early medical history will present physicians of this description but as

Barbarians in gorgeous vails,

of popular empiricism then prevailing, yet fortunately such have existed, and many of these primary luminaries have been sufficiently fortunate to receive a notice from my predecessor in the address alluded to. Many others have flourished in the several counties perhaps equal in professional talent and worth, though less known to general fame, whose names, by the demands of equal justice, ought to be noted and registered with their co-laborers in support of legitimate medical science during the dark period of its history in the American Colonies. In rendering such tribute of respect to the memories of our professional progenitors, we who enjoy the fruits of their pioneer labors and difficulties, are not only discharging a debt of gratitude which is their due, but we are also furnishing for our successors data by which they may be enabled to trace past medical progress, and not improbably may incite them to the performance of a like homage to the memory of the professional benefactors of the present period. There is no doubt, as stated, that all the counties have furnished many physicians of the character alluded to. But as the limits of an address due from me would be inadequate for their general notice, even were the materials readily accessible, I design only to select—as subjects those who passed their professional lives in Fairfield County, leaving those of other sections for individuals possessing a similar interest for the memories of their deceased brethren, who from vicinity of location enjoy better facilities for obtaining their biographical histories.

Few are the recorded data for biography which ordinarily survives the life of the practitioner of medicine in country districts. The uniform and familiar character of his vocation affords but scanty material for the adornment of general history. Being more familiar with prescription than the pen, or the more brilliant exploits of war or legislation, his fame is lamentably prone to expire with the mem-

ories and lives of those who have enjoyed the benefit of his professional labors.

Individual exceptions, however, are not wanting of members of our profession who have left recorded testimonials of their character and fame. The fortuitous circumstances which often bestow individual reputation on the page of history have been the possession of some physicians. The indulgence of political ambition, a devoted professional philanthropy, as well as the endowment of transcendent intellect, are no less likely historically to mark the physician, than his coequals in general society. Most of those in Connecticut who have attained such fortune, have been presented to your notice by my predecessor. Accessible records have supplied him with facts, by which to delineate the character of his subjects in a manner far more interesting and satisfactory than can be expected for those derived from further gleanings in the past professional field.

It is my design in the portion of these papers devoted to biographical notice to select those who, if less distinguished by general fame, were perhaps of equal usefulness in the dispensation of the simple duties of the medical profession.

Of the early physicians of Fairfield County, I have succeeded in obtaining but scanty information. More, doubtless, might have been derived from the early records concerning individuals, were the modern titular appendage added to their names as a guide to the investigation. This omission, so general, is probably to be explained from the fact, that its degradation by its indiscriminate application to all the prescribers of the period, caused the name "*Chirurgus*" to be considered an appellation more worthy the ambition of educated physicians.

As stated, I have been able to derive but little either from record or tradition, of the early physicians of Fairfield County. It is probable that few of note who made the practice of medicine an exclusive vocation, left the larger central towns to locate in the inconsiderable villages of a border county. As in the state generally, many or most of the early clergy of the county united medical prescription with their clerical duties, and it is probable that most of the more regular prescription was in their hands. Of professional prescribers of the period may be enumerated the successive grades of root and Indian doctors; those, who, originating in these, rose through rational observation, and the aid of attention to existing medical literature, to the station of respectable practitioners; and those who by previous qualification entered the profession with more or less knowledge of the medical science of the period.

The earliest physician of the latter description in the county, of whom I have obtained a knowledge, was Peter Bulkley, son of Rev. Peter Bulkley, of Concord, and brother of Rev., afterward Doct. Gersham Bulkley, of Wethersfield. He resided and practiced in the town of Fairfield, but of his character as a physician I have been able to obtain no particular information. I infer from the probate of his will, contained on the probate records, dated March 25th, 1691, that he died in that year. His age at the time of making his will, dated as above, he declares to be forty-nine years. After special devise of his principal estate, which appears to have been small, he adds, "all the other estate I leave it wholly to my executor, whether physic or other household stuff, he knowing all ye concerns about it." His "medicines, shingles and in composition," are inventoried at £25. He constitutes his "dearly beloved brother, Gersham Bulkley," his executor, but he declined the trust.

Isaac Hall was also a physician of Fairfield, who died in 1714, but regarding his reputation nothing special is to be obtained. In his nuncupative will on the probate record, he is styled Doct. Isaac Hall, but his inventory exhibits but a meager amount of his professional remains, unless "Calpepper's Last Legacy," included in the list of his scanty miscellaneous library, may have been a repository of astrological mysteries, and therefore afford evidence that he was skilled in the science promulgated by the celebrated author of that name. Sylvester Judd, Esq., of Northampton, who is most conversant with the early records of Fairfield county, states regarding him "he was a physician and especially a *chirurgien*. He was employed by the government in some warlike expedition, and my impression is, that he was somewhat distinguished."

James Laborie, according to such information as I have been able to obtain, was a French physician, a Huguenot, who emigrated to this country about the commencement of the last century. I am indebted to Rev. N. E. Cornwall's historical discourse on Trinity church, Fairfield, for the following. "Doct^r James Laborie, a French physician of eminence, who left his native country toward the close of the seventeenth century, and had been ordained by Mr. Kinglet *pastor* of the Canon of Zurich in Switzerland, taught and held service according to the usage of the Church of England, in his own home in Fairfield." In a letter preserved in the archives of the above named church, the doctor informs that he "came to this country as a teacher under the patronage of the Bishop of London, and being disturbed by the Indians in the vicinity of Boston, came to the

colony and county of Fairfield, and began by an introductory discourse to act as a missionary to the English and native inhabitants, but was interrupted immediately by one of the magistrates." This announcement of his efforts in Connecticut was probably made at Stratford, where he seems to have resided from 1703 to 1717, but it appears from the records of Fairfield that he resided there as early as 1718. In forming an estimate of the doctor's character as a religious teacher, as shown above, in connection with the somewhat ludicrous action which he has received as a physician, in the address of my predecessor, concerning his legal controversy with Mr. Lyron, of Milford, on the subject of his medical charges, a degree of embarrassment may possibly be encountered. For its removal however, and in his justification in the latter capacity, it may perhaps be expedient to interpose the presumption that he had in a degree been indoctrinated in the Jesuitical principles recognized by the truly Catholic of his native France. Tenets thus instilled may perhaps have prompted the doctor in his evangelizing zeal, to devote his medical prerogative, so signally exercised upon Lyron's purse, as a subordinate for the promotion of the object of his Protestant mission among the heathen in the country of his adoption.

His medical diploma, dated London, 1697, written in Latin, describing him as the son of a celebrated physician of France, was recorded by the clerk of Fairfield county court in 1703. By his will on the Fairfield probate records of the date 1731, he bequeaths to his son James, "all my instruments of chirurgery and my French writings." His death, according to the court proceedings, occurred about that period.

Francis Forgue was also a French physician, who it is understood came to America as surgeon of the French forces engaged in the defense of Canada against the English, during the war which resulted in its conquest by the latter. The period at which he left the army, or the circumstances which led to such decision, are at present unknown. Instead, however, of returning to his native country, he located in Fairfield between the years 1755 and 1761, where he practiced as a physician of considerable distinction until his death. Tradition uniformly assigns to Doct. Forgue the character of a well educated physician, possessing superior talents; of gentlemanly deportment, and in his social qualities affable and interesting. A friend who is remotely connected with the descendants of the doctor, writes me that it is his "impression that he was a skillful surgeon, and that he was employed in Washington's army as such. That he

was polite, rather vague in his religious sentiments, perfectly honest and liberal, despising any kind of fraud or equivocation, and careless of his pecuniary concerns so long as he and his wife had enough." Numerous anecdotes current concerning him confirm the above character. The following would appear to exhibit his religious sentiments as coinciding with those of the French school of theologians. Being in company where an animated discussion arose regarding the merits and final prospects of the several religious sects, an appeal was at length made to the doctor (who had taken no part in the dispute,) for his opinion on the controverted subject, who jocosely responded:—"By and by Monsieur A. [one of the disputants] die; he appear before the Judge, who say, Monsieur A., of what sect are you? Monsieur A. say, I be Presbyterian. Say the Judge, Monsieur A. you take that apartment. By and by Monsieur B. [another of the party] die, and go to the tribunal. Say the Judge, Monsieur B., of what sect be you? Monsieur B. say I be Episcopalian. Well! say the Judge, Monsieur B. you take that apartment." Thus disposing of the Methodist, Baptist, &c., the doctor adds: By and by Doctor Fergus be die, and make his appearance. Says the Judge, Hah! doctor, you come, eh? of what sect are you? I say, Oh! I be just nothing at all! Ah! very well, say the Judge, you go where you please, doctor."

Another anecdote well illustrates the doctor's frank and non-equivocating qualities. He with one John Slocum and others, being arraigned before a magistrate for card-playing, for which he was passionately fond; and being asked their plea, his companions, as by legal parlance bound, plead not guilty! "Hah?" says the most honest Frenchman, "you be Job! you be guilt! I be guilt! we all be guilt! you know you guilt! What the fine Monsieur Justice?" On learning the amount, the doctor promptly proffered the magistrate double the sum, good-humouredly remarking, "Me play out the balance next time Monsieur Justice: leaving the remaining perplexed offenders of the law to heal its breach, by reluctantly following the *exit* so frankly proffered by their more honest Gallic partner. "*Doctor Fergus's men*," is an appellation, at the present time, often applied to persons of free religious faith.

It is said that he never acquired the fluent use of the English language; but ever kept his accounts and memorandums in his native dialect. His tombstone in Fairfield cemetery contains only the simple memorial of his name, and time of his decease, with the further inscription that "he was a respectable physician and useful citizen." He died in 1788, aged fifty-four years.

It appears from Doct. Sumner's address, that John Copp, styled schoolmaster, obtained the recommendation of the selectmen of Norwalk, and applied for a license to practice medicine in 1705. Rev. Doctor Hall, who is familiar with the ancient records of that town, informs me, "that John Copp was a schoolmaster, surveyor, deacon and town-clerk, which last office he held from 1708 to 1740." Doctor Hall adds, "whether he practiced medicine, I have no means of ascertaining." He died May 16th, 1754, aged seventy-eight years.

Doct. ——— Thomas, practiced medicine in Newtown, and died probably, seventy or eighty years ago. He is said to have been a self-educated physician, and possessed of considerable ability. His widow married, I am told, Nehemiah Stroog, formerly mathematical professor in Yale College.

Doct. Uriah Rogers, according to information I have obtained, was born at Braintree, Mass., in 1710, and was a near descendant of Nathaniel Rogers, also a physician, who emigrated to this country, from Apington, England, in 1625, and succeeded President Oaks in the presidency of Harvard College in 1685. Doct. Rogers studied with Doct. Jonathan Ball of Hartford, and was licensed by the General Court in 1733. He soon after located in Norwalk, where he pursued the practice of medicine until his death. He was hospital surgeon in the British army, in the French war, so called, in 1758. At the burning of Norwalk in 1779 by the British, a period subsequent to his death, his late mansion was destroyed with its effects, including his books and papers. The only articles preserved were his silver-headed cane, a present from Gov. Fitch, and his family coat of arms, which is said to be that of the descendants of John Rogers the martyr.

Doct. Rogers is represented as being a distinguished physician, of strong and vigorous mind, and enjoying an extensive practice. He is also represented as being eminent for his piety, of a dignified deportment, and much respected in the community where he resided. He died in 1773, aged sixty-three years. He left six sons, three of whom, Uriah, Hezekiah and David, were physicians. Uriah succeeded his father in the practice of medicine in Norwalk, but died early in life, in 1776, aged thirty-eight years.

Doct. David Rogers studied medicine with his father, obtained a license to practice medicine in New York, and located at Greenfield Hill, Fairfield, where he practiced medicine until age incapacitated him for the active duties of his profession. He died at Norwich in 1829, aged eighty-eight years. He held a respectable rank in his

profession, is said to have been gentlemanly and dignified in his manner, and was active and efficient in the organization of the county society. He held a commission of surgeon in the army of the Revolution; and I am informed was by the side of Gen. Wooster, when he fell at the battle of Ridgefield. This family stock appears to have been prolific in supplying branches of the medical profession; as of Doct. Rogers' five sons, three, viz., David, Charles and Morris, studied and practiced medicine, and his only daughter married the late Professor Dewees of Philadelphia. The son Doct. David Rogers, late of New York, was the father of Doct. David L. Rogers of that city, and also of Doct. James Rogers. Whether acquisitions to the profession, from the other branches have been as numerous, I am not informed.

I am indebted to the politeness of Wm. H. Holly, Esq., of Stamford, for the following notice of the elder physicians of that town, as well as of several of a more recent period, of whom my original design precludes a mention in these papers.

"Doct. Nathaniel Hubbard, died in Stamford in the year 1772, at an advanced age. For forty or fifty years he was the principal physician in the place, and particularly eminent in his profession."

"Doct. John Wilson commenced practice about the year 1760, and continued here until 1796, when he removed to the city of New York. He was a native of Stamford. He died about the year 1802, leaving four sons, all physicians, viz. John, (the father of Hon. John Q. Wilson now of Albany, but for many years a resident of Westport, and judge of the county court of Fairfield county,) Stephen, James and Henry. John and Stephen settled in the city of New York, James and Henry in the county of Westchester."

Doct. Samuel Webb, born in Stamford, March 7th, 1760, son of Col. Charles Webb, a distinguished officer in the Revolutionary war, was a grandson of the above Dr. John Wilson. He graduated at Yale College, about the year 1779, and immediately commenced the study and practice of medicine with Dr. Wilson, and continued in a successful practice up to the day of his death, Dec. 29th, 1828. Doct. Webb ever enjoyed the esteem and confidence of the community to a remarkable degree, not only in his profession, but in his civil relations. On several occasions he represented the town in the Legislature of the State, and for many years filled the office of a justice of the peace. He died very suddenly of enlargement of the heart, in his sixty-seventh year; having previously enjoyed, during life, uninterrupted good health. It is a remarkable fact, shown from

entries upon his day-book, that for fourteen years previous to his death, not a day passed, but he made professional visits."

There were several physicians of the name of Tomlinson who formerly resided and practiced medicine in Stratford. Their respective names, as I learn, were Agur Tomlinson, Wm. Agur Tomlinson, son of the above, Charles Tomlinson, nephew of Agur, and Hezekiah Tomlinson.

I have been able to obtain but little of their biographies, other than that they were highly respectable as citizens, and two or three of the number were of considerable eminence as physicians. The first graduated at Yale College in 1744, and died in 1776, aged fifty-three years. Hezekiah also graduated at the same institution in 1755, and died in 1781, aged thirty-four years.

Doct. Wm. Agur Tomlinson is said to have been somewhat eminent in his profession. He, I am informed, espoused the cause of the king in the war of the Revolution, and retired with most of the American-English patriots to Nova Scotia, at its close, where he resided for a period. He subsequently returned to Stratford and resumed professional duties. He is stated to have applied to the State Legislature for, and obtained a special act granting a restoration of his sequestered estate, and also the privilege of collecting his medical bills, contracted previous to his expatriation. He is reported to have exercised this indulgence oppressively on many of his debtors. He died in 1782.

Two gentlemen of the name of Clark, who were brothers, viz., Joseph and James, and also a physician by the name of Rusch, practiced medicine at an early period in Stratford. The Clarks are reported as physicians of eminence for the period; but I am unable to state anything regarding Doct. Rusch. Joseph Clark is reported as a physician of eminence, and much interested in his profession, a citizen of good principles, and a kind, affable and gentlemanly man. He espoused the cause of the king during the Revolution, in consequence of which his family suffered much indignity from the zealous populace. He fled with his family to the British provinces, where he probably died.

Before proceeding to a notice of the later physicians of Fairfield county, such as were connected with the organization of its medical society, I will briefly allude to the general condition of medicine and medical literature in the county previous to its society organization, as far as accessible facts furnish information on the subject.

Doubtless the medical history of this is similar to that of most other counties in this State; but its association, as well in medical, as in civil relations, was more intimate between the population within the boundaries of each of these geographical sections, it is reasonable to suppose, that influences would originate from such intercourse, which would establish peculiarities, not only in their ordinary domestic relations, but also in the sentiments and habits of practice among the physicians of each county.

In the early periods of the settlement of the State, intercourse among her physicians was circumscribed, and access to medical literature difficult. Medical morals therefore, as well as prescription, doubtless in a considerable degree, received modification from the character and qualification of individuals who were the administrators of the healing art. Hence it is probable that each county presented a medical character considerably deviating from that of its neighboring counties.

Among the causes of sectional peculiarities in the State of the medical profession, not the least was an unequal numerical possession, by its several counties, of physicians of a more refined and exalted education.

It may readily be conceived that the medical character of each county would be elevated or depressed in a ratio proportionate to the enjoyment, or absence of the salutary influence which such must exert upon the sentiments of the community in which they resided. In counties numbering but a limited portion of physicians of this description, it is to be presumed, that the public sentiment regarding medicine would be moulded by and made conformable to the insinuations of the empirical pretenders, while in sections enjoying the teachings of a greater portion of the honorable and educated, a more accurate and elevated estimate would be formed relative to the merits and claims of the various medical administrators within its precincts.

In fields preoccupied by the quackish pretenders, who had cautiously intrenched themselves in the favor of a marvel-seeking public, by exhibiting the mysteries with which they ever envelop their art, the honorable and scientific physician could hardly be expected to seek his fortune. To such fields, therefore, would the various species of pretender, who ever shrink from the light of science, retire with the object, not only of reaping the pecuniary harvests which they presented, but with the view also of escaping the dangers of a detection of his devices. In common with other border counties of the State, Fairfield county originally enjoyed less the counsels of the better educated physicians

than countries more central and populous; consequently it experienced more and longer than these, the evils of empiricism and quackery.

Although its several larger and populous villages early possessed their so called regular physicians, yet these were mostly derivations from the root and Indian doctors, whose professional habits had been formed in the schools whence they originated. A portion of the more rational of these sought association, and gradually became assimilated in practical views with their systematically educated brethren; but while assuming such position, they did not hesitate from motives of enhancing their interests, to foster the popular notion shrewdly inculcated in their *Alma Mater*, that diseases of peculiar location were of special and indigenous character; and that their specific remedies existed principally in the forests and fields in which they originated. Many of these practitioners, however, who possessed greater honesty of character, connected with a native taste for the science which they professed, in the emergencies occurring in their practice resorted to some "printed guide to health," and perchance to the works of Boerhaave or Sydenham, which not infrequently became their standard compasses in practice, and also their instructors in the leisure of their domestic retirement.

By such discipline, aided by observation of the character of disease, as well as by occasional consultations with better instructed physicians, many of this self-educated class became elevated to a respectable rank as practitioners, and useful in the community where they resided. By means of such improvement in the qualification of its professors, the healing art advanced in respectability; the absurdities of the medical impostor were exposed to the judgment of the reflecting; and the popular sentiment which had been trained in the belief of its marvelous results, was gradually led to contemplate medical science in the view of the ordinary sciences, which like these, being based on sensible and rational principles, was to be acquired, but through a patient and careful investigation.

It has been remarked that the more considerable villages usually enjoyed the advantages of the services of regularly educated physicians. By reason, however, of the scanty means afforded for the acquirement of medical knowledge in the early periods of our State's history, the remark may not be deemed invidious, that for the larger portion of medical practitioners, at the commencement of their practice, probably possessed less theoretical medical literature than that acquired by the diligent student of medicine at the present time, after a pupillage of a few months in the office of the private practi-

tioner, exclusive of the instruction which he receives from a course of lectures in a public medical institution.

Occasionally might be found in the more populous districts, physicians who had received their education in European schools. Such were generally versed in the medical science of the period, and of course were important possessions, not only to the community which enjoyed the benefit of their skill, but also to the medical profession by the influence which they exerted in the elevation of the standard of its character and general qualification.

The only source of medical knowledge in the New England colonies, was only that of the private practitioner; and as most of these were versed only in the more immediately practical branches, such as *Materia Medica*, *Theory and Practice*, &c., a possible familiarity of the student with these, was deemed adequate qualification for the exercise of his skill as a public practitioner. Extensive attainments in Midwifery and Surgery were deemed of secondary importance to the medical practitioner; for the reason, that while cases of the former were commonly provided over by the professional "*gubernatrix*" of the neighborhood, the important cases of the latter, as at the present time, were submitted to the skill of the professional operator in that department.

As far as I have been able to obtain information, calls upon the physician to perform obstetrical duties were rare prior to 1800; or perhaps in some locations, a few years previous. In periods considerable earlier than the date mentioned, it is believed that in no cases were their services required, except perhaps in a few rare instances, which were attended with circumstances of a difficult or untoward character. Previous to the formation of the county society, it is believed that the time devoted to medical qualification, even of the regular practitioner, was optional with the candidate for public favor. His reliance for a successful practice was more upon the popular decision regarding his skill, than upon certificates of qualification which he might derive from his medical teacher. However short may have been the term devoted to the acquirement of medical science, those adopting the system of the then recognized regular practice, were readily acknowledged and received into the ranks of the professional fraternity, with the members of which, mutual consultations were held over their respective patients.

In a condition of medical literature, like that of the period under consideration, it might be expected that a preponderating ratio of empiricism would necessarily become blended with its elements, as well

as in the practice of its professors. Indeed such is the view of the practice of the period, as contemplated by the modern observer, that its character is necessarily represented as partaking more of a systematic empiricism or charlatanism, than of an elevated scientific profession. In extenuation, however, of such professional state, it ought to be taken into consideration, that the sources for the acquisition of medical knowledge in the American colonies were few and scanty, and the means for its attainment abroad were accessible to but few. The emergency of disease, ever existing wherever there was population, the public, therefore, were necessarily impelled to the employment of such professors of the art of healing as were attainable in the vicinity of its occurrence, and that often without the option of a selection between the better qualified physician, and the dispenser of nostrums or Indian specifics.

With alternatives thus urgent to influence a public possessing few of the present facilities for scientific acquirement adequate to direct its decisions, or, indeed, in most instances, of even judging by comparison of the qualification of medical claimants on their favor, it may readily be conceived that a limited discrimination would be exercised in the selection of a medical adviser. Nor did it present a new problem in the science of human nature for solution, when it was discovered that abundant unscrupulous candidates for popular favor should be found as adventurers upon their fortune in the profession, with but a medium of knowledge of the intricate sources of disease, or of the nature of the active agents of the *Materia Medica* adapted to their removal.

As ignorance is the parent of quackery and empiricism, little else could be expected of the earlier professional character of the state, than its history actually presents. But the fact that a considerable portion of society at the present period, enjoying the advantages of a general diffusion of education and scientific refinement, with the educated physician accessible to all, should with an eagerness and ready faith, worthy of former times, embrace such baseless and ephemeral novelties, as the Botanic, Homœopathic, and Hydropathic vagaries, as well as the flood of popular nostrums which deluge community, (and that not merely by its more ignorant members, but also embracing many of the better educated class,) presents a psychological enigma of more difficult explanation. With such astounding credulity, thus manifested, relative to the healing art, we may cease to be surprised that in darker era of our early history, embracing a marvel-loving public, and a medical profession whose members

were irresponsible to codes, sanctioned by a majority of its constituents, the tolls and pecuniary sacrifices incident to a competent medical education should be evaded, for the more enticing embrace of the emolument proffered by the immediate assumption of the office of physician.

It certainly affords evidence that as conscientious rectitude and philanthropy are marked characteristics of the medical profession, since, with the fact so strikingly presented to the student of medicine, that the quack will share with him his portion of public patronage, he, notwithstanding, submits to the sacrifice attendant upon the acquirement of such education as alone can qualify him for the office of a competent physician. With a medical profession imperfectly educated, like that of former times, and a public sentiment schooled and disciplined in the belief of its mysterious resources, it might reasonably be anticipated that knavish pretenders as well as the dishonest of the profession, would seek the promotion of their interests, through announcements of various specifics, assumed as marvelous revelations of indigenous agencies, which were particularly adapted to the prevalent diseases of the same location; or that the mysterious manifestations of the Indian character, associated with his marvelous traditions, would be made available for the purpose of exciting the imagination of the credulous, and thereby beguiling them to devote both their health and interests at the shrine of their unhalloved ambition.

It is manifest that dishonorable arts and devices of this description, solely designed to insure to the profits of their inventors, especially when resorted to by members of the profession, could not fail to be prolific of discords among neighboring physicians, such we are too well known to have characterized and disgraced the medical society in Connecticut.

In Fairfield, and probably in other counties, a uncharitably disregard of professional etiquette characterized most of her physicians previous to the organization of her Medical Society; and I am compelled to add, that the confirmed habits of many practitioners protracted the evil for a considerable period subsequently, notwithstanding its salutary provisions of codes and by-laws, with the object of suppressing the evil. Friendly professional intercourse was rare among neighboring physicians. Many habitually visited and prescribed for patients in the absence of, or without the knowledge of the regular attendant; and facts too clearly prove, that often petty and dishonest devices were resorted to, with the object of supplanting an absent rival in the confidence of the patient or his friends. It was

not uncommon in such circumstances, for the recent attendant to denounce the treatment of his predecessor, and after a summary consignment of his medicines, either to the fire or through the window, to substitute from his own stores those, most likely, of the same, or of a similar character.

It is deplorable to contemplate such utter prostration of honorable deportment, by men professing to be members of an ostensibly learned and honorable profession; by those too, who, there is reason to believe, were sufficiently observant of a gentlemanly demeanor in their intercourse with other members of the community.

Such being the view of medical society presented by a retrospect into its past history, it would be interesting to investigate and portray the causes which have effected its present comparatively elevated and improved condition. It would be equally interesting to note the different phases of medication through which the medical society in Connecticut has passed in its progress to the superior moral and scientific position which it holds at the present time. But the discussion would be incompatible with the present design, even did the circumscribed limits of an address on this occasion afford adequate space. It can not, however, be matter of doubt, that the improvement has been effected by the unremitting labors of a few of the master spirits of the profession, who have lived in the different eras of our professional history. These experiencing and deploring the existing evils, and impressed with the conviction of the inadequacy of detached individual efforts for their correction, ultimately devised the remedy of society association, by means of which, a concerted influence of the more respectable physicians of the State, might, more effectually, be directed to the promotion and advancement of the interests, as well as the respectability of the profession.

No doubt much had been effected by individual assiduity, previous to the establishment of medical associations. But such detached and limited efforts had been proved manifestly inadequate to effect a reform of an entire system, defective not only in its general scientific qualifications, but also depressed in its moral character, by the long established unsocial and unprofessional habits and practices of a large portion of its members. It is manifest that to remedy the former, an elevated and uniform standard of education was required, by which the qualification of aspirants to membership were to be tested, and their claims decided by a competent tribunal delegated with adequate authority to deny admission to the incompetent; while to effect the latter, such codes and regulations, promulgated by a no

less potent authority, were demanded, as might prove restraints on the propensities of each of its members as were then, as at the present time, unfortunately endowed with a predominancy of the selfish impulses over their honorable sentiments.

With the laudable object of effecting a professional reform and improvement, the physicians of several towns and counties embraced the plan of society association, as the most effective means for its accomplishment. Experience soon manifested the happy effects of the system: and that its greatest possible good might be attained, the plan of a general State association was conceived and ultimately adopted by the various county societies. This received incorporation by act of Legislature in 1792.

The design of organization was not simultaneously embraced by the various sections of the State, but each with zeal, successively adopted a measure, the happy effects of which were plainly manifested upon the medical society of the sections which had experienced its benefits. The city of Norwich, and Litchfield County, appear to have taken the initiative in medical organization: the first in 1762 or 3, the last in 1765. Windham and New Haven counties, a few years later, followed the example set by the first mentioned, and instituted their societies. Fairfield county appears to have been next tardy in the formation of her society, which was organized in 1792; being a few months subsequent to the incorporation, by the Legislature, of the State Medical Society, which was granted in the spring of that year.

Although Fairfield was later in the movement of organization than its sister counties, yet I am led to infer that a no less active sentiment for reform existed in the minds of her physicians than that already manifested in the other sections of the State. This is shown from the fact that her society records exhibit, appended to the original articles of the association, the names of forty of her most respectable contemporary physicians, being probably about the number of regular practitioners in the county, at the period of its organization.

In view of this ready concurrence and support obtained for her society, from so large a portion of the physicians of the county, it is with regret that I am compelled to the admission, that subsequently, and even at the present time, a large number of respectable practitioners of the county, question its utility and withhold their influence and the pecuniary aid requisite to sustain its action for the attainment of the greatest good for which it might be made susceptible. I am happy, however, in being able to state, that most of its repre-

dieters, virtually admit the salutary influence which it has effected, by their practice of a professional department, according with its police established for the regulation of professional intercourse between its members.

I learn from its records, that the Fairfield County Society united with a commendable zeal with those of the other counties, in an application to the Legislature for the charter of the State Society. At its first meeting at Redding, March, 1792, the following vote appears:—"Voted, that Drs. James Potter, John Loomer, and David Rogers, be delegates to meet delegates from other counties in the State, at Hartford, in May next, in order to form a plan of general incorporation, to lay before the Hon. General Assembly at their next session." The first delegates (so termed) of the society to meet at convention in Middletown, were appointed in September 1792, and consisted of Drs. James Potter, Haddam Betts, Housa Hartford, James Clark, and Amos Mend. That the office of Fellow at that time was one remunerated by love and patronage only, would appear from a vote of the society, preceding the appointment of the gentlemen above named, as follows:—"Voted, that this meeting will make no compensation to the delegates to the Middletown Convention."

It also appears that the somewhat characteristic repugnance to taxation, at present existing with a portion of the physicians of Fairfield County, instead of being an infection of recent origin, is but the development of a predisposition, derived from their professional progenitors: as appears from the following vote passed at the county meeting in May 1793—"Voted—"That whereas the Hon. General Convention of the Fellows of the Medical Society of Connecticut, at their session at Middletown in October last, voted, that they have power to levy and collect taxes for their own support and expenses while in Convention; it is the opinion of this meeting that said Convention of Fellows have not said powers, agreeable to the act of incorporation of the Medical Society; and that the delegates of this county give information of this vote to the adjourned convention to be held at Hartford on the 16th day of May."

A collective power, however, seems speedily to have suppressed the tendency to a development of the affection in the minds of those originally affected, while that of inheritance has, in some cases, proved obstinate and irremediable. It would appear from the following vote that the above was dictated rather by a constructive view of the act of incorporation as regards taxation, than of ham-

ality to the principle. At a meeting of the County Society in 1786, it was voted, "That the President and Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society in legal Convention, shall have full power to levy taxes on themselves, not exceeding one dollar on each member per annum." Also it was voted—"That the President and Fellows of said Society, in convention, shall have ample power to impose such pecuniary penalties on the members of said society, for a transgression of their *By-Laws*, as may be deemed necessary for the well ordering of said society, not exceeding the sum of \$50. It was also voted "That it is the wish of this meeting that the General Assembly be solicited by General Convention to absolve the members of the Medical Society of the State of Connecticut, from paying the moneys taxed for the support of the civil list; provided the like sum be yearly taxed, and collected, and appropriated for the sole purpose of diffusing medical knowledge—voted, that the above vote be transmitted to the medical convention." A vote similar to the above was repeated in 1798; but what action resulted, if any, does not appear.

The following Preamble and Resolution, passed in 1794, exhibit a real Fairfield County Society, for the cultivation and diffusion of medical knowledge, among its members, worthy of imitation by the present members of all medical societies,—viz :—"Whereas the material end, use and design of the Medical Society of Connecticut was to diffuse and cultivate medical knowledge among the faculty; and as this noble purpose can not be answered in any way so well as by the members mutually disclosing any thing that occurs to their minds that may be in any way useful, either in the theory or practice of medicine—Resolved, that it shall be the duty of every member of this Medical Society to exhibit, at least, once in two years, to the society, a dissertation on some medical subject, or relate an account of some cases in the course of his practice that may be marked with most peculiarities, together with his remarks thereon. Resolved—That if any member shall refuse to comply with the foregoing resolution, he shall be considered as guilty of neglect of duty to this society and to mankind in general." Though the requirements of the above resolution were probably not realized to its full extent, yet the records of the society and present experience prove that, through written and oral communication, elicited by the association, much has been effected in the dissemination of individual experience and observation among its members.

By means of adequate police regulations, originally adopted and occasionally modified to meet existing emergencies, a salutary re-

formation has been effected of the unsocial habits formerly characterizing professional intercourse. Indeed, at the present time, such is the degree of professional unity generally observed by the physicians of Fairfield county, that even private complaints are rarely heard of its breach in the ordinary intercourse of neighboring physicians.

It will probably be claimed by repudiators of medical societies, that the improved condition of medical science is a necessary sequence of the advanced state of general literature characterizing the period; and that the improved moral and social habits of the profession have been the natural result of the superior refinement of modern society compared with that of preceding eras. While it is conceded that the cultivation of science tends to refine the taste, and to strengthen the honorable feelings of the few who are its devotees; yet it may admit of question whether, as regards the "style in morals," in the present age of activity of the selfish passions and propensities, society can justly boast a marked superiority of the social and honorable accomplishments over those of the past century.

But to what cause, it may pertinently be asked, has medical science and the social improvements of the profession been indebted, more than to the efforts of its members which have originated and been perpetuated by the authority of the various associations of the period? It is futile to contend that the innate selfishness of some individuals, in all professions, can adequately be restrained, except by the force of a general public, as well as professional sentiment, expressed by means of codes emanating from majorities of individuals in recognized association.

It requires but a reference to the known tendencies of human nature to predict, that should the existing system of medical association be abolished, and the former comparatively secluded state of medical society be reintroduced, no existing refinements, whether social or scientific, would prove adequate to sustain unharmed its present advanced position. There is reason to apprehend that our professional system, with its centric influences thus unhappily discovered, and the affinities of interest remaining to assume their native way over its detached and less responsible constituents, as in former periods, still contains a sufficient amount of discordant elements, not only essentially to derange its existing fraternity, but also greatly to endanger its scientific progress.

It is therefore much to be desired that the repudiators of our medical organization; those who by their frequent interrogatory "qui fecit?" manifestly depreciate its character and importance, both in

view of the public and many of the junior members of the profession, should institute a comparison between the present and past social and scientific history of the medical profession in the State, and then decide to what causes its present improved condition is to be attributed.

It is presumed that such candid investigation will furnish sufficient evidence to convince the most skeptical that it is through the emulation, stimulated by the fraternal intercourse of its members in the various public associations, that we have been enabled to realize the present improved moral and educational superiority of the profession over its past condition; and that it is through a continuance of the same agency that we may confidently hope for a progressive advancement of its respectability and importance in the estimation of the community far beyond its present position.

It has been noticed that most of the respectable physicians of Fairfield county embraced with alacrity and zeal the plan of society organization. Also, the records of its society have been noticed, to prove, that their attention was early directed to professional improvement, by their adoption of measures for the diffusion of medical knowledge and experience among its members. A police system was also early established, designed to remedy evils which had long interrupted the harmony and fraternity of the medical society in the county; an abuse indulged to such extent as, not only to derogate the character and rank of the profession in the view of the community, but doubtless, in many cases, instead of its officiating as an agent of mercy, it became rather a denon of evil to many a luckless subject, whom disease had chained to prostrate on the arena of conflict of his medical attendants.

Indeed, such was the existing emergency that had been induced by the indulgence of empirical habits, by some of its physicians, that professional contention was rendered proverbially illustrative of discord in society generally. Individual experience, whether real or assumed, was habitually vaunted with the object of beguiling the imagination of the credulous; and with many regrettably respectable physicians, the art of abstracting the legitimate patients of neighboring rivals was paramount to that of healing their respective diseases. Indeed, self-interest, sought to be promoted by such dishonorable means, appeared as the object that swayed many practitioners; rather than the honorable and liberal efforts adapted to the advancement of medical science and the public health for which they professed a special regard.

To effect a reform of this depressed state of professional character, and to advance the scientific interests of the profession, was the object of those patriots who originated, and by assiduity effected the medical organization of Fairfield county. They successfully encountered the Herculean task, and by the continued efforts of their successors, the hydra evils, so detrimental to the medical character, have nearly disappeared from the field of their former influence. Those worthy pioneers now all rest from their labors, but their invaluable works remain, and it is their due that their names be held in grateful remembrance by those who have succeeded them in the same field of professional toil.

The names of the original subscribers of Fairfield County Society, who were contemporary practitioners in the county, are the following, viz.

ISABEL FITCH,	SHADRACH MEAD,
JONATHAN KNIGHT,	GIDEON SHEPARD,
PRESERVE WOOD,	ELIAH BAWLEY,
GABRIEL BALDWIN,	OLIVER SENCROFT,
EZRA CURTIS,	AMOS BAKER,
DAVID HULL,	SAMUEL WEEB,
JAMES E. BRACH,	JOHN LESTER,
STEPHEN ROCKWELL,	BENNETT FERRY,
WILLIAM SHELTON,	ELI FERRY,
JOSEPH TROWBRIDGE,	ORANGE BENTON,
JAMES CLARK,	BENJAMIN CURTIS,
THADDEUS BETTS,	JOHN MOORE,
THOMAS DAVIS,	STEPHEN MIDDLEBROOK,
ELISHA BELCHER,	AUGUSTIN MEWES,
JAMES POTTER,	JOHN E. GREGORY,
DAVID RIDGES,	AMOS BOSTFORD,
JAMES SCOFFIELD,	WILLIAM BEARD,
HOSEA SURLYNT,	DANIEL BEARD,
LEWIS BEERS,	WILLIAM EDSON,
AMOS MEAD,	MINK HIGHT,
JONATHAN POOR,	GIDEON BEARDSLEY.

It would afford gratification, did the occasion admit, to bestow a particular notice of each individual, whose names are appended to the foregoing list; but as this is denied, I shall select those only, who from their popular estimate as practitioners, or from their mental characteristics, enjoyed a more extensive reputation in the community in which they resided.

As a tribute, however, due to those whom our limits forbid a more particular mention, I may generally state, that they were respectable and valued practitioners; many of their number possessing

merit and qualification, as such, not inferior to others who, endowed with those fortunate characteristic traits which ever arrest popular attention, enjoyed a more extended and prominent reputation.

Dr. James Potter resided and practiced in Sherman, originally a part of New Fairfield, a town in the north-west part of Fairfield county. According to the best information I have obtained, his native place was Southington in this State. I have not been able to learn where or how he was educated. Rev. M. Guelston of Sherman thinks, that he most probably obtained his medical education under the instruction of his relative, Dr. Potter, formerly a physician of Wallingford. Dr. P. appears early to have united and become a member of the New Haven county society, previous to the organization of that of his own county, and was the third president of the Connecticut Medical Society. He was probably the prime agent in the institution of that of his own county; as its records show that its first meeting was assembled by his rectification. Its honors were more frequently bestowed on him than on any other individual member. As a practitioner, however, I do not learn that he possessed scientific or practical qualification superior to many of his brethren of the county. His zeal was ardent in the promotion of the interests of the profession, and to its exercise, is undoubtedly to be attributed the ready acquiescence obtained from so large a portion of her physicians, for the proposed county organization. The notice which Dr. P. has obtained from my predecessor supersedes the necessity of an extended mention of his public character. Rev. M. Guelston writes regarding him: "as a physician he was highly esteemed here, and in a wide circle around. No intruder could have encroached upon his business. In the political, civil and religious community, his agency and influence was great, and his memory has been cherished by all who knew him. He was a popular teacher, and instructed many students the science of the profession."

He is said to have been of social habits, and so passionately fond of angling as frequently to resort to the waters of Long Island Sound, a distance of twenty or thirty miles from his place of residence, to indulge his favorite recreation. Of his personal appearance a friend writes: "He was of a grave and venerable appearance; being one of the last who wore the small clothes and triangular (or Puritan) hat; dressing his tall figure with neatness and elegance. He was of a susceptible temperament, and celebrated for telling anecdotes." He died Feb. 10th, 1894, aged 67 years.

Dr. Gideon Shepard was a practitioner and native of Newtown.

I have learned that he studied medicine with Dr. Thomas, a professional predecessor in his native town, who is said to have been a reputable practitioner. I suspect that the early acquirements of Dr. S. were not extensive; but if such was the fact, he amply compensated for the defect, by an habitual devotion to the science of medicine, and its observant application to the diseases which he treated. My early impressions of the doctor are, that he devoted greater attention to the occurring improvements in medical science than most of his cotemporary brethren.

Although not endowed with extraordinary intellectual powers, his talents were respectable, and of a character calculated for usefulness, rather than display or striking originality. If he did not attain eminence as a professional scholar, he was diligent in his efforts to acquire such portions of existing medical literature as were more immediately adapted to the emergencies of practice ordinarily presented to the notice of physicians. To his juniors in the profession, Dr. Shepard's department was ever urbane, and his counsels to them, disinterested and parental. His professional coevals in neighboring towns, generally conceded to him a precedence, as a consulting physician. The following vote from the records of Fairfield County Medical Society sufficiently evinces the estimation in which he was held by his brethren—"Voted, That Dr. Gideon Shepard receive the patronage of this society in consumption and chronic cases of disease, and that it be the duty of all members of this society to recommend him, when counsel is deemed expedient, &c., and that it be his duty to report all cases of that description to which he may be called to attend, with their particular symptoms, the particular medicines, and the constitution of the several patients, together with the predispositions of their ancestry."

Although the existing generation of physicians may smile at such blending of professional opinion with popular belief regarding excellence of the skill of individuals in special classes of disease, yet the fact is undoubted, that such were professional concessions as late as the close of the last, and commencement of the present century. His mode of treatment of consumption, as I learn from his statement of cases left on the records of the society, was not peculiar, being in general mildly antiphlogistic, and similar to the present treatment of Phthisis. To meet occurring symptoms, local bleeding, counter irritants, with sarsaparil and demulcent expectorants, were his general prescriptions.

Doct. S. was somewhat eccentric in character, but social, instruct-

ire, and agreeable in his intercourse with society. In his religious sentiments, he was a resolute Swedenborgian. He ever sustained a reputation of great moral purity; and while he was highly esteemed by his friends, his enemies or traducers were rarely found. What few physicians can boast, he was the father of seventeen children; thereby practically refuting the possible charge, that while enjoying the profits of a special branch of his profession, as a prompt accessory in the accumulation of responsibilities on his friends, he was cautious in the assumption of similar burdens on himself.

He is said to have been of an extremely charitable disposition, and indulgent as to his pecuniary claims upon his poorer patients. This disposition, with the necessary demands for the support of his numerous family, ever kept him poor, though not indigent, as regarded a respectable living. Doct. S. was one of the most prominent of the originators and supporters of the Fairfield County Medical Society; and the records of this convention will show, that he was one of its most frequent and active members. He died a few years since at Hunter, New York, where he resided with one of his daughters, when incapacitated from age for the practice of his profession, at the advanced period of eighty-nine years.

Doct. Bennett Perry was a contemporary practitioner with Doct. Shepard in Newtown. He was a son of Doct. Nath. Perry of Woodbury, a highly respectable physician of that town. The son, probably, acquired his profession with his father; when he located in Newtown, where he practiced medicine until his death, which occurred in 1821, aged sixty-six years. His reputation is that of a physician possessing superior talents, well developed by education, and an able, respectable and highly accomplished practitioner and citizen.

Doct. John Lester was, I have understood, a native of Massachusetts. He studied medicine with Doct. Nath. Perry of Woodbury, who it would appear was among the most prominent medical teachers of the period. He commenced practice at the age of twenty-one, about 1789, at Huntington. Doct. L. was one of the most respectable physicians of the county, and an active and efficient member of its medical society; in the organization of which he sustained a prominent part. His death occurred in 1802, aged about thirty-five years.

Doct. Wm. Shelton was a native of Huntington, a graduate of Yale College in 1788. He pursued his medical studies I am informed, in part with Doct. Eneas Munson, and was for a time under the instruction of Doct. Wm. Agur Tomlinson of Stratford. He first

located and practiced in Trumbull, but on the decease of Doct. Lester, he removed to his native town, where he continued its principal physician until his death. Doct. S. was a talented, skillful and most respected physician. He was an influential pioneer in the county society organization, and ever continued one of its principal supporters. He was the father of Doctors William Shelton of Stratford, and James H. Shelton of Huntington. He died in 1812, aged fifty-two years.

Doct. David Hull was a native of the town of Derby. He was the son of — Hull a resident of that town, and brother of Gen. Hull of Detroit notoriety. He was also uncle to Com. Isaac Hull of the Navy. He graduated at Yale College in 1785, and studied medicine with Doct. Titus Hall of Bethlehem, a proprietary of the celebrated "Hall's Physic." He located and practiced his profession in Fairfield, where he continued a highly respectable and respected physician until his death, a period of nearly half a century. He enjoyed an extensive practice not only in Fairfield, but, especially in cases of cholera, in the adjacent towns, where he was often called as a consulting physician. Doct. H. acquired from his preceptor, who I believe was a distant relative, a knowledge of the composition of "Hull's Physic" in consideration of his name. The composition of this nostrum was a secret which its inventor allowed to be imparted but to those of his name; and to those, but with the condition that such only as enjoyed the family cognomen were to be admitted as candidates for a reception of the concealed treasure. Such was the position of Doct. David Hull in relation to this celebrated nostrum; for which he encountered the censorious remarks of his medical brethren abroad, and not unfrequently, those of his own county, who were less familiar with the immoderation made in which he employed it.

In justice to the professional memory of Doct. Hull, and in vindication of a friend whom I much esteemed, I am happy in being able to state from personal knowledge, that without proclaiming the specific virtues of the pills in the cure of cholera, on which disease its popularity was based, or in any degree adopting the mode of nostrum proprietors in announcing their handlings for public attention, he unapologetically employed them in his practice as a favorite laxative in that, as well as various other diseases in which he deemed them appropriate, simply under the denomination of his *doct's pill*. He was from its origin, and ever continued a member of the county society, notwithstanding the existence of its stringent by-laws, and

the known detestation of empiricism, which actuated its most prominent members. The tolerance which Doct. H. experienced from his contemporary brethren, under such circumstances, might be deemed adequate evidence of their estimate of his character, as a respected and honorable member of the county society; but in addition, the following vote on the society record, exhibits positive proof, that he was recognized as a valued and esteemed member, whose influence it was deemed desirable to secure and retain, for the promotion of the object for which it was organized. Voted, "that a committee be appointed to call on Doct. David Hall, and inform him, that by paying his taxes in arrears, he will be considered an honorable member of this society, without inquiry into the secret of the composition of *'Hall's Phlegm.'*" A committee of three of the most respectable members were, in accordance with the above vote appointed, and Doct. Hall remained a most esteemed member of the society until his death, which occurred in 1834, aged sixty-eight years.

I am indebted to the politeness of Professor Knight, for the following notice of physicians who practiced in Norwalk, his native town.

Doct. K. in reply to a communication on the subject, states, "The oldest physician whom I knew, and the only one of any distinction, when my father settled there, was Thaddeus Betts, M. D. He was, I believe, a native of the town, a graduate of Yale College in 1745, one of the original members of the Connecticut Medical Society, and received from it the degree of M. D., at an early period of its existence. He died in 1807. He was a man of great excellence of character, well informed in his profession, and a judicious practitioner. I think he made no pretensions to surgery. I recollect him as a cheerful, pleasant old gentleman, abounding in wit, and instructive in his conversation.

"My father, Doct. Jonathan Knight, was born in Lisbon, then a part of Norwalk, Conn., Jan. 10th, 1758. He studied medicine with Doct. Ladd, a physician, of that neighborhood. In 1776 or 7, he entered the army, and was surgeon's mate of the Connecticut Regiment, under the command of Col. Durkee or Durgee. He was with the troops under Gen. Washington at Valley Forge, during that most dispiriting period of the war. He left the army in 1780, and settled in Norwalk in 1781-2. For many years he was actively and extensively engaged in practice, principally as a physician, in that and the neighboring towns. He continued in the performance of the active duties of his profession, until they were diminished by advancing

years and increasing infirmities. He died March, 1823, in the seventy-second year of his age."

I would add to the above statement of Doct. Knight, that Doct. T. Betts was the grandfather of Hon. Thaddeus Betts, late of the United States Senate. Doct. Knight, besides the esteemed writer of the above, had another son, Doct. James Knight, who located and practiced in Stamford, but died in early life, about the period 1818. Doctors Betts and Knight were among the most prominent and influential members who aided in the establishment, and were zealous supporters of the Fairfield County Medical Society.

Among the most eminent physicians of Fairfield County was Doct. Hosen Hurbart of Greenfield Hill. He was a native of Berlin, Conn., and son of Samuel Hurbart of that town. He commenced the study of medicine with his celebrated and eccentric uncle, Doct. James Hurbart of Wethersfield. He was for a time a student in the office of Doct. Wolcott of Litchfield, the elder governor of that name. While there, he numbered among his intimate associates, Judge Rogers, Aaron Burr, John Allen and Oliver Wolcott, Jr. Even among such intellectual associates, he is said to have sustained a distinguished part, through the exercise of a marked original genius, a ready scintillating wit, and interesting conversational powers. He subsequently commenced practice in the upper part of Middletown, from which place, after a short residence, he removed to Greenfield, in the town of Fairfield, where he resided until his decease, distinguished alike as a physician, and man of generally cultivated and rare genius.

Doct. Hurbart possessed a high sense of the dignity of his profession, and ever abhorred duplicity in all its forms. He despised alike the medical empiric, the legal pettifogger, and the small politician, who seldom failed to receive, and sensibly to writhe under the castigation of his pungent shafts of criticism, by which, with acute aim, he rarely failed to mark his victims.

In addition to his familiarity with the medical literature of the day, his attention was so far given to belles-lettres science, that, with the aid of a remarkably retentive memory, many of the classic poets, as Milton, Dryden, Pope, Young and Johnson, he was accustomed to repeat nearly entire from memory.

The doctor himself possessed a rare poetic genius, which, however, was more employed in aid of occasions inviting the exercise of his masculine satirical powers, than in the ordinary gentle effusions of the muse. He rarely permitted the publication of his poetic pieces.

One, however, entitled the *Quick*, directed against the chicanery of a professional neighbor, he published anonymously, with successful effect upon its unlucky victim.

Such was the retentiveness of his memory, however, that most of his poetic compositions, he could readily repeat. Several of these I have heard him recite, which in poetic gracefulness even surpassed, while the pungency of their satire was not inferior to that of Peter Pindar or McFingal.

Among the many anecdotes which might be adduced to show the doctor's instant wit and ready application of quotation, the following is pertinent. Being in a company of attorneys, one of the number, with the design to rally a reporter, asked the doctor why perpetual unbrotherly feuds were so characteristic of the members of the medical profession? at the same time boastingly remarking, "Not so with us lawyers; we ever live in neighborly harmony; quarrels hardly being known to exist among us." Says the doctor promptly in the language of Milton—

"Deed with deed dancied,
First round held. Men only disagree,
On crosses national" &c.

As a physician, Doct. Hurlbut was doubtless far in advance of the generality of his contemporaries. His views of the treatment of disease approximated more to modern practice, than the overdrugging which characterized the era in which he practiced his profession. He was opposed to polypharmacy, and ever directed his treatment with a view to aid the salutary efforts of the economy in its struggles against diseased action, rather than embarrass them by the burdensome influences of a great variety and excess of prescription. The chief object which he ever kept in view, was a diet and regimen adapted to the condition of his patient, and the exhibition of such medicines as existing symptoms appeared to indicate. It was his marked disapprobation of the contrary practice pursued by most of his neighboring brethren, in connection with the pointedly expressed disgust of the petty arts practiced for procuring patients, which drew upon him an excess of their hostility, and caused him to be frequently denounced by them, as a cynic inimical to the interests of the profession.

Doct. Hurlbut possessed a remarkably fine personal appearance. His form was commanding, dignified and graceful. In conversation, his language was chaste and select. Vulgarisms, whether in sentiment or expression, met his frowning rebuke; and all acts of a mean

and dishonorable character, which were subjects of his observation, ever met the stinging force of his satirical lash. He was scrupulously neat in his person and temperate in his habits. He was a regular reader and admirer of the Bible, and a firm believer in the truths of Christianity. He died April 23th, 1825, aged 80 years, leaving a reputation that will long survive him throughout the community in which he lived.

Being a neighbor and friend to the doctor in the early period of my professional life, I had the fortune of attending him in his last illness. An anecdote occurred at that time, well illustrative of his character and of the force of the ruling passion in death. The disease which terminated his life was a paroxysmal, and extremely painful affection of the stomach, of an obscure nature. For several days he retained an undimmed intellect. During the intermissions of the painful attacks he was, as usual, social and communicative. Being sensible of his approaching end, and having been for a long period on unsocial terms with Dr. Hull, he expressed the considerable wish for an interview for the purpose of a reconciliation. Dr. Hull readily reciprocated the feeling, and an amicable adjustment was the result. During the interview, in the absence of his painful paroxysm, the doctor's favorite topic of medicine happened to be the subject of conversation; and "*Hull's Choleric Pills*," which the invalid ever held in sneering contempt, became the object of a jokey rally upon his recent friend. Dr. Hull *pretending* judging that the reconciliation might be hazarded by attempting defence, suffered the pleasure to proceed till the embarrassment of his situation elicited the response: "Yes, doctor, those pills are a favorite hobby of mine"—"which thousands have rode to death!" was continuously supplied by the patient.

Dr. Asahel Fitch was one of the early physicians of Redding, and is remembered in Fairfield County, as a worthy man, and one of its most respectable practitioners of medicine. He was among the principal pioneers in the formation of the County Society, but died soon after its organization. His death occurred in 1792, or about that period. I understand that he was the grandfather of Professor Knight of Yale College.

Among the physicians of Fairfield County, who enjoyed a long and successful practice, was Dr. Thomas Davis of Redding. He was a native of Washington, Litchfield County. He commenced the study of medicine at the age of sixteen, with Dr. Seth Hastings, of that town, a physician somewhat distinguished, I am informed, as a medi-

cal teacher. Dr. D. previous to the attainment of his majority, was admitted as a partner in the extensive practice of his preceptor. He subsequently removed, and practiced medicine, for a period, in Sherman, in Fairfield County. In 1793, on the decease of Dr. Fitch, he removed to Redding, where he continued in the duties of his profession, till his death, which occurred in 1831.

Dr. Davis possesses the reputation of being among the first of the physicians of the County who assumed regularly obstetrical duties; and so successful were his labors, that he became particularly eminent in that department. It is asserted of him, that during the long period of his practice he never lost a parturient patient.

The doctor being summoned as an important witness to appear before the court in Fairfield, and not appearing, the sheriff was sent to compel his attendance. Being absent, and learning on his return, that the officer was awaiting at a public house in the vicinity, he without notice to the official, rode to Fairfield and appeared before the court. On the question occurring with the court, regarding the costs attending the capias, he requested one or two of his legal friends to excuse his delinquency. The judge decided, notwithstanding, that the law must be observed and that the doctor must bear the expenses. Dr. D. then requested a hearing in his own behalf, which, being granted, remarked "May it please the court; I am a good citizen of the State, and since I was summoned to attend this court, I have introduced three other good citizens into it." The court replied, that for so good a plea, he would leave the parties to pay the expenses. The doctor received the congratulations of the bar for his successful defence.

The following anecdote, as connected with another subject embraced in these biographical sketches, and also with a historical event occurring in this convention, I will take the liberty to relate.

Dr. James Potter of New Fairfield, when on his way to our annual convention, at which he was to deliver an address, called and spent a night with his friend Dr. Davis. The orator being elated with his anticipated exhibition, and several of his acquaintances, among whom was a county court judge, calling on him in the evening, they united with his host in persuading him to rehearse before them, his grandiloquent speech. After the family and domestics, including an African, had been summoned, with the view numerically to multiply the audience, the doctor with oratorical pomp, mounted the rostrum, (which being a large arm chair,) and delighted himself and auditory by its rehearsal.

The chair rendered thus memorable has been presented to a member of the medical society. Rev. Thomas F. Davis, one of our most respectable divines, is the only male descendant of Dr. Davis.

The subject to which I have directed your attention has led to a retrospect into the darker era of our professional history; when both physicians and the public enjoyed few of the advantages of mental culture that now exist. Credulity and ignorance, fostered by knavery, there appear as the prominent agents in misleading the public mind in its estimate of medical science and the object and importance of its cultivation, as well as to lead it essentially to under-estimate the character and object of the profession directing its legitimate administration.

The unfinished influence which credulity still exerts over the public mind, in the present comparatively enlightened period, affords no small evidence in favor of the position, that it is an innate propensity, holding a no less important relation to the mind than that of one of its elementary constituents, which will probably manifest its activity in every condition of society, whatever may be the advantages enjoyed for its discipline and cultivation.

In such view of the origin of credulity, it is true that the apprehension can but be indulged, that in some form of manifestation, it will long continue to counteract the teachings of reason and experience, and thus ever prove an obstacle that will be likely to obstruct our profession, in its efforts for the advancement of the creative interests of the community.

The hope, however, may be entertained, that among the many improvements of the age, such a system of culture for the mind will ultimately be devised, that its several faculties may be taught to act in their appropriate spheres, and a healthy rationality be substituted for the morbid exuberances of reason which impostors in science originate and cherish, with the object of accomplishing their detestable designs. It is those, who, at the present time, no less than formerly, distract the opinion which the public attempt to form regarding the value and importance of medical science, as well as that of theology and general spiritual agency.

The professions of medicine and theology, as embracing within their confines a larger amount of perplexing and indefinite mysteries, the one of the organic, the other of the spiritual world, have ever been the prolific source whence impostors in science derive the aliment indispensable for the germination and growth of their baleful progeny of errors which distract and mislead public sentiment in its

estimate of their respective merits. The professions of law and the common arts enjoy a comparative exemption, for the reason, that their principles are based upon sensible observation, and therefore are more readily comprehended and defined by the ordinary powers of sense and reason, which most persons possess. It is true that the *offspring of evils* which afflict the respective professions of medicine and theology are diversified in their forms; those of each being moulded by the varied element which they respectively supply; yet they are the product of an analogous germ of mental origin, and it is therefore undoubted that through the same remedy, a salutary inculcation of truth to the minds of the affected, the malady of each, (if curable) is to be suppressed.

It is manifest, therefore, that any efforts having reference to the suppression of evils flowing from credulity, that afflict the several professions, must be directed against the genus, rather than the particular species or variety which each presents. The mental fountain must be clarified, before the Protean errors which it emanates can be corrected. It is futile for the profession of medicine or theology, or even the political reformer, to attempt singly to combat the impostor or fanatic in the varied form which he assumes in their respective departments. He can alone successfully be encountered, by the more rational of all the professions uniting to instruct the affected in a judicious exercise of their senses and reason, and the rejection of all such appeals made to their imagination, which are unsustained by evidence derived from these generally safe guides and faithful monitors.

It would appear that evils thus identical in their character and origin, ought to inspire a mutuality of interest in the suffering professions for their eradication. It is, however, a fact much to be regretted, that, whilst the influence of medical science, and generally the efforts of physicians, have been applied to counteract the common maladies originating from credulity, they have not received corresponding aid from the clerical profession, their joint sufferers from the evil. While the latter has been strenuous in its attempts to suppress the impostor and fanatic in religion, a large portion of its members have too frequently supplied their influence in aid of the quack in medicine, in his adventures for fortune upon the health and lives of the credulous in community.

It is a matter of regret that men of education and influence like those, who by their profession hold the exalted position of moral and religious instructors and conservators, should thus unintentionally be

made instrumental in furtherance of the basely selfish designs of the knave and impostor in medicine. The explanation of the phenomenon may possibly be derived from the fact, that their minds, through habits acquired in their investigation of the revealed mysteries of theology, and the habitual assent which they are accustomed to bestow, on evidence supplied by faith, upon the important truths which their profession requires them to teach, are more prone than others of equal mental discipline and understanding, to yield their credence to the pretended marvellous revelations of the quack; especially when such are assumed as results of unceasing investigation into the mysteries embraced in the laws of organic structure, and its concomitant, the vital principle.

I am gratified, however, in expressing my conviction, that far the larger portion of the more intelligent and influential of this most respectable and useful body of our fellow-citizens, are in no degree chargeable with this error of judgment regarding the merits of the medical profession, of which we complain. There have ever bestowed their individual influence in sustaining the claims which it holds upon the community for a just appreciation of its labors in its behalf. Could their powerful influence be made available in their several public bodies, the leaders of empiricism would be weakened in their most important intrenchments, and the lower positions to which they would be compelled to resort, would curtail their ability of inflicting the evils in which they have too long and too successfully revelled.

I would therefore close this address, already extended beyond the limits originally designed, by the suggestion for your consideration, whether, by instituting officially joint measures (could such be effected) between clerical and medical public associations in reference to the emergency arising from the evils through which both are sufferers, they might not be essentially loosened, if not eradicated. Could such concerted action be effected, it is rational to hope, nay it is morally certain, that their united influence would effect much in the correction of public sentiment in its erroneous views of the obscurities which the sciences of each embrace. By a salutary discipline thus forcibly inculcated, there can be no doubt that the success of the impostor, both in religion and medicine, would be materially checked and his influence curtailed, if not eradicated.

Although the views suggested may be deemed too Utopian for human nature with its existing structure, yet permit me to express the belief, that by judiciously directed concurrent efforts of the two pro-

feetiana, aided by the intelligent of all classes, the hydra would be effectually suppressed, and its influence, hitherto so detrimental to the advancement of useful science and the public welfare, would be enfeebled and powerless, by thus exhausting the aliment required to sustain its growth.

In retiring from this presidential seat which you have successively assigned me, accept, gentlemen, my thanks for the honor you have conferred, and for your indulgence of the imperfect ability which I am conscious of having displayed in the discharge of its responsible duties. During the period of my occupancy of this station, and a long previous experience as a member of this convention, it has been my good fortune, uniformly to witness a manifestation of a most harmonious and fraternal feeling among its members, amid all the discussions of the various subjects of legislation that have been submitted to its action. While in most deliberative bodies, party or sectional interests are too power to originate unusual passion, and to excite angry debate, no such exhibition has here been indulged. On the contrary, a unity of purpose, directed solely to the advancement of the medical profession in respectability and usefulness, has ever signally appeared as the actuating principle governing each of its members.

Permit me, gentlemen, to express the hope that the same benevolent object will ever direct the deliberations of all your future convocations; and also my conviction that a continuance of the same course of prudent legislation, that has characterized the past, will not fail progressively to elevate the character of the medical profession of Connecticut, to a position unsurpassed by that of its brethren of other communities, or of either of the learned professions; and where it may survey unconcerned, the petty assaults of a reckless empiricism, which will doubtless, long be sustained with the hope of luring a novel-loving public to contribute aid for the promotion of its interest and aggrandizement.

I can not, Gentlemen, in justice to my feelings, close without expressing the deep sense with which I am impressed by the recent event which has deprived the medical profession of several of its shining ornaments, as well as this Society of two of its most active, respectable and efficient members.

I presume that in common with myself, there are members of this body who anticipated a cordial and friendly greeting with our esteemed friends and colleagues, who have now retired from all earthly scenes, but whom a few days since we had apparent reason to be-

these little shots of a grave providential dispensation would be likely to deprive us of their presence. Their visits in our hall of convocation have been, heretofore, nearly as familiar as its fixtures by which we are surrounded, and there are recollections thus made vivid, which are peculiarly calculated to add deeper poignancy to the event which we doubtless all is common deplore.

From the one, Doct. Samuel Beach, selected at our last annual meeting as Dissertator, we had the apparent good reason to expect an interesting and instructive communication. But in this, our hopes are annihilated, and it is becoming to us devoutly to submit to the act of superior Wisdom which has intervened and frustrated our cherished expectations. Of the character of Doct. Beach as a citizen, a physician and friend, I can not refrain from the remark that, during a long experience of friendly and intimate intercourse, I have ever found him uniform in the exercise of the qualities of an honest man, a gentleman and philanthropist; while as a member of the Medical Society and profession, it is no disparagement to any of its members to say, that in zeal for the promotion of their interests and prosperity, he was surpassed by none.

Of Doct. Archibald Welck, surrounded as I am by his friends and neighboring brethren, and in consequence of the position which he has long held in this Convention, as a member, as having fulfilled various official duties in its connection, including those of the occupancy of the chair, my attempt at his eulogy is rendered unnecessary. Personally, however, I am inclined to state that during an acquaintance of more than a quarter of a century, I have uniformly had occasion to admire his characteristic urbanity and gentlemanly deportment, and for a number of years, being officially associated with him in the discharge of public professional duties, I have experienced the benefits of his valuable friendship and more intimate social intercourse. Generally, I do not hesitate to add, that, as an example of zeal for the furtherance of the interests of the profession, he has left no superior.

But an afflictive Providence has interposed and the cherished hopes of future interviews with me, and with you, are thus abruptly terminated. It only remains therefore for us to emulate the worthy example which may be derived from the lives of the individuals whose career on earth has been so suddenly arrested.

While then in common with their families and numerous circles of friends, we deplore the loss inflicted by the awful event, let us professionally improve the admonition, that the Guardians of life are,

alike with their charge, subject to the various forms of death which their vocation calls upon them to combat : and that on separating at the close of our annual convocations, no eye but that of an inscrutable Providence can designate those from our number, whose labours will cease to animate us in future assemblages, but in the reminiscence inspired by *their* virtues which survive *them*.

REMARKS
ON
POPULARIZING MEDICAL TRUTH.

By the late SAMUEL BEACH, M. D.,

OF BRIDGEPORT, CONN.

IN all the departments of medical knowledge, principles elaborated and settled on the foundations of truth, which can not be rationally disputed, are valuable. The labor necessary for accomplishing this in some of the subjects of the profession, is very great: and can be shown to be true, so as to be entitled to an intelligent confidence, only by a long and tried experience, the record of many facts, and the results of this experience stated by an observer who is known to be accustomed to utter truth: while some of the principles of the profession may be demonstrated by very simple processes of reasoning, or readily seen to be of extensive use to human society, so very limited observation, or by their practical working. Our most important principles and truths on which our science is founded, are of the former description. They have been established by long and patient labor and observation: and their correctness confirmed by the experience of successive men in successive generations. Hence, then, medical science must be gradual in its progress and complete only when human knowledge is perfect. A discovery in some one of the departments of medicine is very possible to occur with limited experience: but so much is included in what constitutes the *circle* of medical science, that a new system must be the work of toil and time. All the principles on which it must rest to be entitled to public confidence, must be tried by the experience of many years.

Medicine includes such a wide range of subjects, that in some of its most important departments, the united experience of several ob-

service becomes necessary for the fullest establishment of truth. The field is so broad—collateral subjects of knowledge have been so long contributing toward it, that no industry is fully sufficient, no perseverance scarcely adequate to master all the requirements to qualify the mind of the physician to fully appreciate all its important truths.

Those which have been received and established as medical philosophy have then attached to them a peculiar value.

They have both an intrinsic and relative value: intrinsic, because of the cost with which they have been procured, and because they have in them the means of extensive human benefit, and are associated by all the wise and good with the great truths of natural science, and relative because they become central points on which the whole system rests when properly understood, with unshaken stability, and compared with the assumed truths of visionary and false systems are as the gems and the fine gold to the tinsel and the dross. Medical truth was never more valuable than at the present period. The broad-cast intelligence of the age has fostered a pride of opinion by which men of small qualifications propose and advocate theories with a party logic which, for a time, attracts attention and hinders the progress of truth, so that a principle having the highest claims to confidence with those qualified to judge of its merits, still must make slow progress to general dissemination and be in such a relation for a long time circumscribed in its usefulness.

The same means of intelligence carries information on the various topics of the times, to the day laborer, and to the mechanic's bench. With but a moderate degree of industry in improving the vacant hours he comes to have opinions on the measures of the general government—on the hair-splitting subjects of theology, and why, with such advantages, and his experience with a numerous family, should he not be entitled to opinions on the nature of disease and the mode of cure? Thus hasty opinions, impulsive conclusions and some of the truths of science, perdition, mingle promiscuously, and ask encouragement of the highest bidder. Error on medical subjects, is in this way becoming incorporated with the growth of our communities, and sound philosophic truth compromised with the vague theories, presumptive and superficial views of the system and practice of the regular profession. Until in some parts of the country where there is no proper representation of the profession, is men furnished with the means of counteracting influences on such a state of things, skepticism and delusion are rampant and theories not to ac-

confidence with established truths have gained temporary and sometimes permanent friends, so as to be capable of effecting for the time, fatal mischiefs on the best interests of life and health.

While these agitating crosses operate so injuriously on the rightful reign of medical truth in the masses; the profession is by no means exempt from contagion from the same sources. A class of minds poorly qualified to judge of the merits of any system, by imperfect education, and at the same time not very anxious to adopt right theories or to pursue right practice on account of moral considerations, embrace views more with reference to their value for obtaining their bread, than from what they can see in them of the soundness of medical philosophy, and so they are ready to adopt new ones whenever the changes in public sentiment lead them to expect a greater benefit from such a source.

It would not be difficult to show, in this connection, to the profession, and the country, the value of a thorough medical education, by which the great truths of the regular system should be thoroughly fixed in the mind in theory and practice, of all who come into the profession.

However the future history of the profession in the great field of discovery and improvement might make it necessary to vary in some of the less important departments both in theory and practice, still, the main principles on which the structure chiefly rests, must ever be the same. No great rejection of the fundamentals, no wholesale discarding the wisdom and experience of the fathers, and the adoption of new ones, can ever in the nature of things, take place. Incorporated with, and involved in the present principles and truths of medical science, are many of the first principles of natural philosophy, on which is fixed the superstructure of all the most important departments of human knowledge—and where else in the divine plan of maturing the progress of things, has the human labor of ages in developing great first principles so ruthlessly been set at naught? We may confidently look back in vain, and forward with no reasonable expectation of such a sacrifice.

To return to the increasing necessity of vigilance over the qualifications necessary for the profession. When the present efforts of the American Medical Association shall have accomplished their high designs in this respect, and in reference to their efforts on the subject of alterations, the profession will have achieved a triumph, when such less may be apprehended from those numerous sources of error.

—Shallow draughts intoxicate the brain—

has its significance of application more in reference to medical knowledge than any other department of learning. Loose and imperfect qualifications in so many of the profession, most undoubtedly, are among the greatest antagonistic influences to the dissemination of the truth of correct medical practice with which we have to contend.

It is a curious fact that wherever men are left to form their own opinions of subjects of natural or moral science of difficult demonstrations, or with minds poorly furnished to meet the magnitude of the subjects, the variety of views will be like the variety of minds, and seldom will agree to any decision any longer than till a new theory is propounded and advanced with some adroitness, and the common fancy for the novelty of the new will gain attention, when it has but little merit further than in the boldness and noisance with which it is defended.

The alarming manner in which the false theories and systems of practice are gaining attention, calls for the special attention of the profession and for an investigation as careful and appropriate that the remedy shall be understood and successfully applied. Nor should it be regarded as particularly assuming and selfish in the profession, that the responsibility of doing this should be by us fully assumed.

Qualified as we should be for sustaining our high responsibilities, we are and must be the supervisors of our own and the public good in this respect, and with no sparing hand ought we to deal out the most decided approbation of all sound and well informed men and sound and well constructed principles and practice of our charge, while for no minor consideration or sinister motives should we withhold the severest misadversions and the sternest anathemas on the false and speculating systems of the times. It is meet and proper, it is expected that if we have medical truths on which our system is founded which can stand the scrutiny of minds capable of intelligent and thorough investigation, that these should be represented in some manner so as to be stripped of their technicalities and relieved of their mystical relation to the profession, as isolated in this respect, from the rest of the world, and in some clear and intelligible manner, shown to be the imperishable truths of natural science entitled to the highest confidence of the public mind.

Hitherto our system has been too much a system of practice. Each man in his way employing the test of his own life in observation which should establish or reject the correctness of the practice of his teachers and predecessors; while with the mass of the

faculty the necessity of elaborating and teaching to others the great truths has been overlooked, and the necessity of traversing anew the same ground field of observation appears to each successive generation of practitioners as the first and most important duty of their lives; and thus the same round of beaten track is passed over as we succeed each other. We have now other duties to perform. The day has at length come when before the intelligence, such as it is, of the age, every system must stand or fall on its own merits, as they can be illustrated and defended to the masses.

It is not sufficient that we understand the truths of medical science among ourselves. The people by whom the system is approved or rejected and from whom its support is to come, must have the different systems in review, and will most assuredly adopt that which they can most clearly comprehend. It is not necessary that we should attempt the herculean task of educating the public mind for this purpose. It is only necessary that some of our most important and fundamental truths should have wide circulation in language so familiar that all may understand. As difficult as this may at first seem, such facilities are now offered for popularizing every subject in which the public has an important interest, that the greatest obstacles may be surmounted. So much has been accomplished in every other department of life, such amazing results in all the business and benevolent relations of civilized society, that the same principle applied to extending the no less important truths that relate to life and health would soon accomplish all that the most sanguine could expect. The organizations which we have already in operation, with well directed effort, might revolutionize the public mind and place all the important truths beyond the annoying reach of empirical pretenses and schemes.

Each individual of the profession, in his own way, by a little effort, might make his influence felt in his own circle. Yet, he who is devoted to his daily round of clinical duties can have but a feeble influence extending beyond. The kind of confidence reposed in him as one in the great medical body, is only that which is derived from their confidence in his integrity and his general ability for accomplishing, in the best way, whatever he undertakes. The confidence is in the man rather than in the system under which he practices. And however successful he may be in multiplying his patients, and his friends, or establishing himself in public estimation as the best practitioner in the country, he will do but little toward fixing in the public mind the right kind of confidence in the great truths of his system.

which will last and afford a perpetual munition of defense against the intrusions of the new systems which shall be ever and anon rising for a chance when he has left the field of contest for others less experienced to occupy.

Here and there a mind of association powers may have so perseveringly advocated and perhaps publicly instructed in the principles of his system as to have made some impression in the comparatively short period of his medical career—but hitherto in the history of medicine this has been exerted on the *profession* and though the people may have been through such a source passively benefited, yet to see all the advantages to be obtained from such an influence, these truths should have been simplified and popularized, until the people should see their appropriateness to answer the purposes for which they were designed—their genuineness therefore justly entitled to their undivided confidence.

This deficiency in the general diffusion of some of the main and appreciable truths of medicine has left open the door for competition from unworthy sources, and the profession is thrown into the position of strife for the mastery, with company who will not bear the least comparison in real qualifications for such an effort. And still the strife goes on, the profession still necessarily exposed to the annoyances of laboring in the field of competition with them and exposed to the discredits of such company; and while too the acclamations of victory from the crowd go up now and anon for ignorance and error, truth of necessity submits, is mortified and disheartened with apparent defeat. It is scarcely in the power of the profession to remedy this false state of things, so long as the first principles on which our system is founded, have their circulation in, and are understood only by the profession—while error and systems of one idea are in all the public prints, and with all the impudence and effrontery of their advocates, known and read of all men. The voice of the people is, in this sense peculiarly regarded as the voice of the gods, and what has once had the award of truth before such a court and jury, will find under the habits of our institutions, but a sorry prospect of appeal to the tribunals of science.

The simplicity of the false systems are continual temptations with the masses to experiment. If one truth in a new system is seen, it is enough to entitle it to attention until it is proved false; which, with the various appliances of these designing advocates, and the indisposition of human nature to acknowledge itself in a false position, becomes no easy task to contravert.

The *clatoury* of pride of opinion, when once committed to a false system, and the various subterfuges and shifts even at the imminent hazard of their own lives, and the lives of their families, were it not too serious, would often be not a little amusing, and show how under such a condition of mind, wisdom and common sense will tend to make, and sometimes really do make profound obedience to the most consummate ignorance and folly.

I have a case to illustrate. A very respectable family, the male head of which was for a number of years editor and proprietor of one of our oldest political journals, had the medical advice for twenty years of one of our oldest physicians and surgeons to their entire satisfaction. Near the close of this time the female head of this family, had in New York, or somewhere among her set of town friends, caught the charm and simplicity of the *new idea, similia similibus, exenteris*, and after being duly provided with a pocket box of the infinitesimals, and having experimented on her own family in numerous cases, signified to her neighbors, first, her alarming apprehension of the regulars, and then, her *firmest confidence* in the new system. She was now fully committed to the new system, and against the old. The few remaining years of life were industriously employed in persuading to keep herself in company in the new position, until at length she and her daughter, were seized nearly at the same time, with tertian (intermittent). She had learned at the feet of Hahnemann *exactly* what was calculated to cure free, the perfect pathology of this disease and speedily expel the ruthless invader from the personal domain of herself and daughter. The *cure quæ nunc* was administered in the scale of dilutions, month after month: the disease, the while, not heeding his spiritual opponent, still pursued its fatal ravages on the feeble frames of the mother and daughter, until the mother first sank and died, under a determination to the brain. The daughter with the ruling passion strong in death, was still disposed to give the system a fair trial, continued two or three months longer and died with disease of the lungs, both having the chills and fever, until the close or near the close of their lives.

This pride of opinion has become an important element with which medical truth has to contend; and where is it more offensive and more likely to operate obstinately, as in the above case, than in the class of community now so much taken with infinitesimals, the aristocracy? Catching influences from those crude and erroneous views of the theory and practice from all the numerous sources, and

while no opposing influences are at hand to bear on their minds, the adopted sentiments become theirs to warrant and defend as their families and their kinsmen, and any attack on them is at once regarded as really an invasion of their rights, to be repelled *et cetera* as an attack on either of these. Most other subjects of science are far in advance of medicine in this respect. The great truths on which they depend for the soundness of their philosophy have been popularized, so that when once understood as indisputably true, they are no longer questioned or doubted, more than any of the other truths of natural science.

The common objection to this course with medical subjects, which has so often hindered the faculty from any attempt at this, must be dismissed as without foundation; and though true relatively to some other subjects of human knowledge, is not positively and wholly true. I mean, that medicine is not a demonstrable science and there is too much uncertainty for public appreciation. If, indeed, after the lapse of two thousand years of faithful and laborious investigation by some of the best minds the world ever saw, there *are* no great truths of medical philosophy capable of being shown as demonstrable and certain—it is surely the only field of human labor to which the mind of man has been applied so long and so faithfully without success.

These allegations come from sources unworthy of confidence, and continually contribute to the popular skepticism on the subjects of our profession. Medical truth properly simplified would not be regarded as uncertain by the general intelligence of the times, but veritable and true, as any other subjects of science.

What then are some of the truths of medical science, which may be regarded as established and capable of illustration to the non-professional, so as to be entitled to their unshaken confidence?

It may be first necessary to see in contrast what is *not* true in medical theory, that we may better understand the merits of what is really true.

One of the greatest sources of error in the public estimation of the false systems has been the tendency to receive *partial truth* for whole truth; and when such partial truth or principle is applied to general practice, the principle instead of being true in general, loses its worth as a correct general principle and is only true in its local or special application. For example, it may be true that an ignorant may have a correct diagnosis of a given disease, or that he may apply a correct remedy for its removal, while it is most obviously

not true that inferior qualifications would as certainly insure correct estimates of the nature of the disease, or treatment in the promiscuous and more general intercourse with the anomalies of the human system.

No department of life involving responsibilities so important, requires a larger range of accurate and high qualifications for successfully discharging the duties of the same than the profession of medicine. He who assumes the practice of the healing art, should be familiar with, and accurate in nearly the whole field of natural science; and in every respect in which he is deficient in these, he is liable to fail in the accuracy and success of his practice. And whether by acceptable personal deportment, or high moral qualities alone, or general intelligence, or tact in gaining friends, he has obtained the public confidence, it is not true that he is as justly entitled to it as he would be, if fully furnished in all the requirements of science necessary to make a well educated man.

The idea that has too extensively prevailed that mere tact will supply deficiencies of education in our profession, has always proved detrimental to its best interests. It has been employed for selfish and unworthy purposes with some success, but still its effect on the general character of the profession has been bad.

Again, several of the false systems of medicine depend for their popular acceptances on the pretence of one important truth, which is so constantly kept in view as to deceive the uninitiated as to the general truth of the system. It is mainly to be attributed to this manner of representation that the principle of Hahnemann, *similia similibus curantur*, has been so successful as representing the whole system as true, when in its general application it is not true; neither is it true that the pathology can be obtained by the "totality of the symptoms"—and who does not know that the principle of Hahnemann is entirely false, that "there is nothing to cure but the sufferings of the patient."

My object is only to give examples and not to allude to the particulars of the misrepresentations of the false systems of this "reformer." The same may be said of the truth on which the theory of Samuel Thompson was attempted to be sustained, "that heat is life and cold is death." In some partial relation to the great system of medical philosophy this may be said to be true, but when considered as a general practical truth it becomes extremely false, and obviously so if considered in the light of the opposite system of the Si-lestian quack Priessnitz, who teaches that cold in the application of water is the sovereign balm of life in all disease. All the systems

them which rest for support on one or two important truths and reject other equally established truths in their general application are and must be false.

Without detailing you longer to consider what is true, which has been assumed to be truth in the false systems, it may be shown that it is a well settled truth as any of the laws of physical science, that a knowledge of the structure and uses of the human system is necessary to a correct appreciation of its diseases.

To comprehend all the physiological relations of the system and fully and correctly estimate these in health and in disease, theoretically and practically, requires something more than a scanty apprehension of one or two principles of pathology. The irregular question and deny this. The only difficulty in demonstrating the truth of the principle is that it requires to be done at the bedside. Comparatively few of the most important principles of pathology and therapeutics can be fully shown by mere efforts of reason or supposed facts. They require to be seen as actual facts, and are as susceptible of satisfactory demonstration to a mind capable of appreciating their nature and relation as any other demonstration.

It is not difficult to show that five and three and two are ten; but it requires quite another kind of effort to show that five symptoms seen as deviations from normal action of the respiratory organs, three from stethoscopic signs, and two from the capillary system, make the ten to constitute pneumonia. The demonstration is just as real, while the difficulty lies only in the proper understanding of the steps by which we come to the final conclusion. When it is understood that the five deviations from healthy action are such as always accompany that specific form of lung disease, that the three stethoscopic signs are sure indications of such altered structure, and the two symptoms of the skin exist in this connection, the demonstration is complete and the mind is left to no other conclusion but the correct and legitimate one.

It is the demonstration of law and testimony, when the established laws of the human system are well understood, and the testimony of symptoms in relation to any particular case is correctly estimated, that the conclusions must be correct—subject only to the same liabilities of all other demonstration, viz., mistakes in process of reasoning.

The difference then between the false systems and the true is, that the former reject the necessity of such qualifications to reason correctly, or altogether reject all demonstration and only assume that such are the facts and such as they suppose are the conclusions.

They attempt to arrive at conclusions by tact, instinct, divination,

inference. Much of their dependence is placed on the latter. Thus if twenty cases of a given disease under a new system of treatment show a larger percentage of recovery than with the regular treatment, therefore it is the best. Several points of importance in this conclusion are assumed and want the proof which would be necessary in order to show the correctness of such a conclusion.

But to return from this digression. It is true that morbid anatomy is necessary to correct pathology. It is true that correct diagnosis is essential to intelligent and successful treatment. It is admitted that disease may be cured by blunders, by accident, and by the natural restorative effects of a system in other respects healthy; but the truth here stated is designed to imply qualifications for fully understanding the nature of disease under all circumstances and appropriating the best remedies, or as necessarily understanding under what circumstances it would be best to use no remedies at all.

While it is obvious that it is the province of the physician to obviate and remove all harmful causes and use often the most vigorous means for arresting the progress of threatening disease when properly understood, it is true that the great restorative principle in recovery is the vigor of the vital forces. And it is equally true that in quite a majority of the diseases of the system all that is to be done is to place the system in such a condition that these can operate without interruption.

The idea of curing disease as by some conjuration or by attributing powers to medicines used which they do not possess, which the faculty by their own ignorant use of terms have fixed upon the public mind, is untruthful and unscientific, and operates to place us in the public estimation on the same common level with the empiric.

They ignorantly and falsely promise to cure. We see the true pathology, understandingly remove the existing cause, follow the indications of nature in restoring the integrity of the functions involved, and see the great work of restoration completed by the same principle that carries and diffuses life through every vein with equal certainty both in health and disease. They promise to take by the horns and cut out what they can not see, feel or understand, an indefinable something called disease; while we see in the evidence which the symptoms give, the operation of harmful agencies and the nature of the lesions being and having been produced, remove obstructions, neutralize harmful influences, husband and sustain the vital forces, and then understandingly see a perfect system of organism work out its own legitimate results, viz., organic and functional life and health.

A very important truth to be understood and popularized in this connection is, that when the vital forces are defective from age, or the violent or long continued operation of harmful causes, the most skillful application of remedies will not always be successful.

Though immense labor has been bestowed on the department of materia medica and chemistry, and through the influence of this department of the profession a vast amount of remedial means has been provided for the mitigation of human suffering and restoring to health abnormal functions; yet many of the principles of this branch are not so easily demonstrated to minds not understanding their practical relation to these practical principles, but still enough to subserve the great purposes of truth, and show that remedies have a specific action on particular functions or organs and this sustained by innumerable facts and daily experience. It is also true that this action is varied by age, temperament, sex, condition and habits; the knowledge of which can only be acquired by acquaintance with their operation, continual observation and experience, and a matured judgment.

Thus I have given a few examples of the truths which have been for ages established and accumulating in number as the improvements in science have developed the resources of nature and art, and furnishing daily demonstrations of their appropriateness for the great purposes of the profession, and of their stability as entitled to a place in the archives of sound and useful philosophy. They are all, with innumerable other as well established truths of medical science on which the wise and good have long acted and depended, demonstrable as founded in the laws of the morbid changes of the human system.

Unless all the wisdom of the past, the labor and toil of minds of the highest character, is rejected and set at naught, these truths are indisputable, and as well established as the laws of gravitation and electricity. Why then have doubts and skepticism ever been entertained? Why has the arrogant assumption ever been received that what the profession have known and practiced so long as truth is not truth? Why have the crude questionable opinions of one man and his visionary followers with limited experience and doubtful veracity, stood for a moment in the comparison with the wisdom and veracity of one thousand years? For no other reason than that the public are unqualified to judge.

The facilities for popularizing all the great subjects of science and art, have been brought to the door of almost every citizen of the land,

and what of any public utility has been too profound or difficult to be made plain? And what has been the history of medical truth in this respect? While the talent and power of the profession have been exhausted in elaborating, establishing, and defending medical truth, the people have passively enjoyed the benefits while they have known but little of their merits. The day has come when it is fashionable for men on all subjects to think for themselves. The designing, the skeptical, and ever doubting empiric, doubting and skeptical because he can attract attention in no other way, takes advantage of the public ignorance of medical truth, and makes the credulous listeners an easy prey. Some truth long used and established by the profession he now simplifies and popularizes with a new dress, and calls it a discovery, and it is soon received as a discovery by the gaping crowd with exclamations of joy. The highest qualifications of the profession only indirectly meet this evil. Those, with a corresponding practice, show to the discerning their merits and inspire confidence in the man rather than their system of practice. Our duty then to the public is not completed in the acquisition of high attainments, until we have employed those attainments in simplifying and popularizing the great truths of our science—teaching, defending, and illustrating in our daily intercourse with our friends, until they shall see and appreciate their soundness and appropriateness, to meet the wants of suffering humanity under all circumstances of pain and disease.

It is not my design to point out in what particular way the profession could most effectually do this. But have we not the men and the means, in these times of lectures and books, by which the principles of our system might be popularized and defended under the most favorable auspices for success, and so as that the delusion and false theories of the day would very soon be among the things that were?

Once fix in the popular mind these truths so that they shall understand and make them their own, and they will adhere to them with as much tenacity as to their families or their estates.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SIXTY-SECOND ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

Conn. Medical Society,

MAY, 1854,

WITH A LIST OF MEMBERS.

AND THE

DISSERTATION OF WILLIAM B. CASEY, M. D.

HARTFORD:

PRESS OF CASE, TIFFANY AND COMPANY

M.DCCCLIV.

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BENJAMIN H. CATLIN, M. D., VICE-PRESIDENT.

GEORGE O. SUMNER, M. D., TREASURER.

JOSIAH G. BECKWITH, M. D., SECRETARY.

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Committee of Examination.

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LEWIS WILLIAMS, M. D.

JOHN D. FORD, M. D.

WILLIAM W. WELCH, M. D.

Committee to nominate Physicians to the Retreat for the Insane.

S. T. SALISBURY, M. D.

L. THURSTON, M. D.

F. L. DICKINSON, M. D.

P. A. JEWETT, M. D.

D. P. FRANCIS, M. D.

Committee to nominate Professors in the Medical Institution of Yale College.

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O. K. ISHAM, M. D.

WILLIAM C. WILLIAMS, M. D.

WILLIAM B. CASEY, M. D.

DAVID HARRISON, M. D.

The Annual Convention of the President and Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society, was held in the Medical College in the City of New Haven, May 10, 1854.

THE President, Richard Watson, M. D., being deceased, the Convention was called to order by the Vice-President, when the certificates of the election of Fellows were presented by the Secretary, and referred to a committee consisting of Drs. Brewster, Boardley, Ford, Hall, Burr, Welch, Baker, and Dimock, who reported the following list of

FELLOWS.

SARATOGA COUNTY.

Wm. E. Brewster, M. D.
J. D. Wilcox, M. D.
*William Wood, M. D.
*E. Brandegee, Jr., M. D.
C. E. Hammond, M. D.

NEW LONDON COUNTY.

John H. Ford, M. D.
D. P. Francis, M. D.
Seth Smith, M. D.
Edwin Bentley, M. D.
E. F. Cross, M. D.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY.

*E. P. Bennett, M. D.
David S. Burr, M. D.
*Charles Sherwood, M. D.
L. F. Hamilton, M. D.
Robert Hubbard, M. D.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY.

David Harrison, M. D.
*F. W. Shepard, M. D.
Rufus Baker, M. D.

SOUTH HAVEN COUNTY.

W. Hooker, M. D.
L. N. Boardley, M. D.
B. F. Saffron, M. D.
Amos Moody, M. D.
C. A. Goddard, M. D.

WINDHAM COUNTY.

David E. Hall, M. D.
Charles H. Rogers, M. D.
Thomas W. Perry, M. D.
Edith Baldwin, Jr., M. D.
Harvey Campbell, M. D.

LITCHFIELD COUNTY.

W. W. Welch, M. D.
Ralph Denney, M. D.
J. W. Estwell, M. D.
J. W. Phelps, M. D.
A. M. Husley, M. D.

COLLINS COUNTY.

Timothy Dimock, M. D.
William N. Clark, M. D.
Oscar Wood, M. D.

Then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, when the following gentlemen were duly elected, viz.:

WILLIAM H. COGSWELL, M. D., PRESIDENT.

BENJAMIN H. CATLIN, M. D., VICE-PRESIDENT.

GEORGE O. SUMNER, M. D., TREASURER.

JOSIAH G. BECKWITH, M. D., SECRETARY.

John D. Ford, M. D., and William W. Welch, M. D., to fill the vacancies in the Committee of Examination.

Pliny A. Jewett, M. D., and D. P. Francis, M. D., to fill the vacancies in the Committee to nominate Physicians to the Retreat for the Insane.

William B. Casey, M. D., and David Harrison, M. D., to fill the vacancies in the Committee to nominate Professors in the Medical Institution of Yale College.

A committee was appointed, consisting of Drs. Campbell, Moody, Wilcox, Coats, Bennett, Denning, Harrison, and Clark, to bring forward the unfinished business of last year.

On motion of Dr. Ford, the proposition of the New London County Meeting to hold the next Annual Medical Convention in the city of Norwich, was then brought before the Convention for their consideration, and referred to a committee of one from a county, viz., W. Hooker, Hammett, Francis, Perry, Hubbard, Huxley, Shepard, Baker, and O. Wood.

The Secretary then read a circular from the New Hampshire State Medical Society to the several State Medical Societies, on the resolution adopted by them, not to appoint delegates to the American Medical Association from any society which enrolled among its members the names of any physicians who practiced any form of empiricism, and also recommending to the Association not to receive any delegates from such societies.

On motion, referred to a committee to be raised on the subject of *Nostrums* and *Patent Medicines*.

On motion of Dr. Robert Hubbard the rules were then suspended, to allow Dr. Casey to read his Dissertation immediately after the meeting of the Convention in the afternoon.

The Society unanimously agreed to rescind the resolution adopted several years since, directing the Secretary or Treasurer to provide a dinner at the expense of the Fellows in Convention, and accepted the invitation tendered them by the New Haven City Medical Ass-

ciation, to attend a meeting of said Association at the Tonnies at seven o'clock, P. M.

The Convention then adjourned until 2 o'clock, P. M.

Two o'clock, P. M.

Convention came together. The Dissertator, Wm. B. Casey, then read an interesting paper before them, on the subject of some diseases of the "Cervix Uteri."

On motion, the thanks of the Convention were tendered to Dr. Casey for his able and interesting communication, and he was requested to furnish a copy to the Secretary for publication with the proceedings.

Dr. Orion Wood offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to petition the Legislature now in session, in the name of the Connecticut Medical Society, to enact a law, making it penal for any person to offer any medicine for sale, unless the medicine be labeled in plain English with the name of said medicine, and if it be a compound, to contain on the label the name of every article in its composition, in the English language.

On motion of Dr. L. N. Beardsley, the subject was referred to a committee of three.

Drs. Beardsley, Wood, and Baldwin, were appointed said committee.

Dr. John D. Ford then offered the resolutions of the New London County Medical Society on the subject of Patent Medicines, and also the proposed law of the State of New York for the protection of the public against the evils resulting from their sale.

After reading by the Secretary, on motion, the whole matter was referred to the Committee on Dr. Wood's resolution.

Dr. Wm. W. Welch then offered the resolutions of the Litchfield County Medical Society, adopted by them at their annual meeting, in reference to a uniform tariff of fees and charges for professional services, with the report of a committee appointed by them to recommend a tariff of charges to be adopted by them until the next meeting of the Society.

The communication and circular were then read by the Secretary, and referred to a committee of one from a county to report thereon.

Dr. Campbell, from the Committee on Unfinished Business, reported that the only unfinished business before the Convention was the appointment of Professor Knight by the last Convention, to report the Progress and History of Surgery for the last fifty years in this State.

Report accepted, and committee discharged.

Drs. W. W. Welch, W. Wood, Linsley, Bentley, Rogers, Hammett, Harrison, and Dimock, were appointed a Committee on the Resolutions of the Litchfield County Medical Society.

Dr. John D. Ford then presented the action of the New London County Medical Society on proposed Amendments to the Statute Law passed by the General Assembly at the May Session, 1852, on the subject of Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages, proposing the same fees to the reporter that were paid to the Registrar.

A motion was made and carried, to refer the whole subject to a committee of three, to take into consideration the revision of the act of Registration, and to petition the General Assembly for such amendments as in their wisdom would remedy any defects in the present law.

Drs. S. G. Hubbard, Jewett, and Knight, were then appointed said committee.

Dr. Hooker, from the committee appointed to report on the next meeting of the Convention being held at Norwich, made a report that the committee were in favor of said proposition.

Report accepted, and the Convention then voted to hold the next Annual Convention at Norwich, instead of Hartford, which would have been the regular place of meeting for the Convention of 1853.

Dr. Beardsley, from the Committee on Dr. Wood's resolution, relating to the labeling of medicines offered for sale; also the resolutions of the New London County Medical Society, respecting a general law regulating the sale of Patent Medicines and Nostrums, reported:

That while they consider the sale and use of Patent Medicines a serious evil in the community, and one which must ultimately be corrected with legislation, and while in their judgment the incorrect and careless manner in which medicines offered for sale are frequently labeled is equally objectionable; yet would, however, recommend that the further consideration of the subject be postponed until the next Convention.

BEARDSLEY,	} Committee.
WOOD,	
BALDWIN,	

Report accepted.

On motion of Dr. Hooker, the committee were continued, to report to the next Convention.

The report of the Treasurer was then read, accepted, and referred to a committee, consisting of Drs. Hall, Welch, and Beardsley, to audit the same.

Abstract of Treasurer's Report.

Cash in the Treasury,	8212.20
Due from Clerks,	81,357.45
Debit, (ay one-third of this for fuel, debts, statements, commissions, &c.,	383.81
Balance,	771.64
Total Cash and due from Clerks,	8943.94
The Society owes for outstanding Debentures,	340.50
Leaves Balance in favor of Society,	8603.44

Drs. Bidwell and Smith were appointed a Committee on Debentures.

Drs. Bestonell, Moody, Coats, Campbell, Bennett, Huxley, Shepard, and Clark, were appointed a Committee to nominate Delegates to the American Medical Association, to meet in Philadelphia 1st Tuesday in May, 1855.

Drs. Hooker, Wilcox, Bentley, Baldwin, Ballard, H. Wood, and Baker, were appointed a Committee to nominate Candidates to fill the vacancies in the several counties for the gratuitous course of Lectures at the Medical Institution of Yale College.

Drs. Ford, Dimock, Hammond, Linsley, Rogers, Burr, Huxley, and Shepard, were appointed a committee to report suitable persons to be recommended for the honorary degree of Doctor of Medicine to the President and Fellows of Yale College, and honorary members of the Connecticut Medical Society.

Drs. Welch, Hubbard, and Francis, were appointed a Committee to nominate a Dissertator to the next Convention.

Dr. Coats reported the name of Josiah R. Gay of New London County Medical Society, as having violated the By-Laws of the Connecticut Medical Society, by using, vending, and recommending by his publications, his own secret medicines or nostrums, and read some extracts from his pamphlet recommending said nostrums to the

public as infallible cures. He further reported that said Gay has been tried according to the By-Laws and Regulations of the Connecticut Medical Society, and found guilty of the offenses charged against him. He therefore moved that the action of said county meeting be confirmed and said Gay be expelled from the Society.

Voted, To refer the matter to a committee to investigate the action of the county society, and report to the Convention.

Drs. Coats, Hocker, and Moody were appointed said committee.

Dr. Knight then reported a post-mortem examination which he had just held on death resulting from a tumor in the region of the stomach of an individual in whom he had some six or eight years since cured popliteal aneurism, by the pressure of the hand, with only slight pain and little medication, (only one-eighth grain of morphine every six or eight hours.) The pressure was continued for about forty-two hours, by the members of the class attending the current lecture term, and the result was the obliteration of the artery, and the complete relief of the patient. He stated that other means of pressure had been attempted, but produced so much pain that they could not be borne, and that the pressure of the hand produced but little inconvenience to the patient, and was successful. The morbid specimen, the tumor which occasioned the death of the patient, was exhibited to the Convention, and also the artery obliterated some years since, exhibiting a double arterial circulation, of which he mentioned there were some instances on record, either as instances of *lassa arterie*, or by means of the enlargement of anastomosing branches caused by the obliteration of the main artery. The details of the case of which this is a brief analysis were very interesting.

Prof. Knight also exhibited a new instrument for ascertaining the specific gravity of urine, which he regarded as ingenious.

Dr. Knight reported to the Convention that he had been appointed by them to prepare a history of surgery for the last fifty years in the State of Connecticut—that he had hoped to have been able to make such a report at this time, but that he had found great difficulty in obtaining the necessary information to enable him to present such a history as would do justice to the subject and the men who had distinguished themselves in their profession during that period. He stated that he had addressed circulars to members of the profession in different parts of the State, but had received but few replies to his interrogatories, and consequently but little information—on the subject matter of his history. He remarked further that the history of

surgery was the biography of the surgeons of that period, and would be deeply interesting to the Convention if the necessary information could be obtained. He might obtain much interesting matter to communicate to the Convention at a future time. If he did so, he would present a paper on this subject, without the appointment being continued for the purpose.

The report was accepted, and the wish of the Dissector acceded to, in being discharged from the appointment.

Dr. Coats, from the Committee on the action of the New London County Medical Society with J. R. Gay, reported: That a formal trial had been had with the delinquent member, and he cited to appear before this Convention if he saw cause, or could show any reason why the By-Laws of the Society should not be enforced. That he had not appeared; that the proof was ample: his offense of the most aggravated nature. They therefore recommended his expulsion from the society.

Report accepted. The action of the society in county meeting confirmed, and J. R. Gay was expelled from the Connecticut Medical Society.

Dr. J. G. Beckwith, from the Standing Committee of Examination for Degrees and Licenses at the Medical Institution of Yale College, made a report, which was read by the Secretary and ordered to be printed with the proceedings. See Appendix.

Dr. Wm. W. Welch, from the Committee on the Litchfield County Resolutions, made the following report:

That the Secretary be requested to transmit printed copies of the tariff of fees and charges recommended by the committee appointed by them for that purpose, with such alterations as we have made in the report now submitted by us, to the several clerks of the county societies, and we recommend the adoption of them, except in the cities of the State.

Report accepted. Resolution adopted. See Appendix.

On motion of Dr. Fosh,

Resolved, That the Secretary be instructed to publish with the proceedings of the present year the Code of Medical Ethics of the American Medical Association, and that said code be adopted by this Convention.

Also, that the Charter, By-Laws, and Medical Police of the Connecticut Medical Society adopted by us, be published.

Also, all resolutions now in force, passed by previous Conventions, be published.

The above resolutions were severally considered and passed by the Convention.

Dr. Welch, from the Committee on Honorary Degrees and Honorary Membership, reported the names of Dr. Adiel Woodward, of Franklin, Sabin Stocking, of Gloucesterbury, J. D. Wilcox, of Granby, Lewis Richards, of New Canaan, Prof. Jas. A. Porter, of New Haven, and Henry Aldrich, of Rhode Island, as suitable persons for the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Medicine.

Also, Frank H. Hamilton, of Geneva, and Robert Watts, of New York, as Honorary Members.

Report accepted, and on balloting for the several gentlemen, they were unanimously elected: viz., Profs. Hamilton and Watts as Honorary Members of the Society, and Drs. Woodward, Stocking, Wilcox, Richards, Aldrich, and Prof. Porter, were recommended to the Corporation of Yale College for the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Medicine.

Adjourned to 8 o'clock, Thursday A. M.

Thursday, 8 o'clock A. M.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Dr. Hooker offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted by the Convention.

Resolved, That in the death of Dr. Richard Warner, late President of our Society, we have lost one of our most valuable members, and that while we contemplate his bright example as a faithful Christian physician, we should be incited to greater diligence in the performance of our duties in the few years that are allotted to us, and that ————— be requested to prepare an obituary notice of the deceased, to be inserted in the proceedings.

Resolved, That the Secretary be requested to transmit a copy of the above resolutions to the family of the deceased.

The President filled the blank with the name of Wm. B. Cagoy, M. D.

On motion of Dr. W. Hooker,

Resolved, That the thanks of the profession are due to Dr. Chas. Hooker for his efforts in relation to the distribution of the Transactions of the American Medical Association, and that he be requested to continue those efforts, so that the valuable volumes issued annually by the National Association may be still more widely distributed among the members of our State Society.

Passed unanimously.

Dr. Brownell, from the Committee on the appointment of Delegates to the American Medical Association, reported the names of Drs. Benjamin Rogers, J. G. Beckwith, L. N. Bondley, and J. D. Ford.

Report accepted, and they were appointed.

Dr. Welch, from the Committee to nominate a Dissertator to the next Convention, reported the names of Dr. Samuel G. Hubbard, of New Haven, as Dissertator, and Dr. J. D. Ford, of Norwich, as substitute.

Report accepted, and they were severally appointed.

Dr. Hall, from the Committee to audit the Treasurer's report, reported that they had examined the same and found it correct.

Report accepted, and committee discharged.

Dr. W. Hooker, from the Committee on Gratuitous Students, reported that the following gentlemen were claimed from the following counties, viz.:

Hartford county,	Lincoln S. Wilcox,
New Haven county,	Oliver H. Brewster,
Windham county,	Joshua V. Harrington,
Litchfield county,	Wm. M. Knight,
Tolland county,	Cyrus Newman.

For vacancies in New London, Fairbairn, and Middlebury counties, John Winter, Stephen F. Pomeroy and S. C. Robinson were recommended.

Report accepted, and the vacancies were filled by John Winter, Stephen F. Pomeroy and S. C. Robinson.

On motion of Dr. S. G. Hubbard,

That the county meetings be instructed, in the recommendation of Students for Gratuitous Courses of Lectures in the Medical Institution of Yale College, to select, as far as possible, only those who have attended and paid for one course in that institution, or who give satisfactory pledges that they will attend and pay for their second course of lectures there.

Motion passed, and recommendation adopted.

On motion of Dr. W. Hooker,

Resolved, That a tax of one dollar and fifty cents be laid upon each member, payable on the 1st June next.

Resolution adopted, and tax laid.

Dr. Bidwell, from the Committee on Debentures, made a report, which was read, accepted, and ordered to be paid.

On motion, the Convention then adjourned *sine die*.

Attest,

JOSIAH G. BECKWITH, *Secretary*.

MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

JAMES JACKSON,	Boston, Mass.
JOHN C. WARREN,	Boston, Mass.
BENJAMIN SHELDON,	New Haven.
THEODORE ROSELYN REEK,	Albany, N. Y.
EDWARD DELAFIELD,	New York.
JOHN DELAMATER,	Charleston, Ohio.
JACOB BIGELOW,	Boston, Mass.
WALTER CHANNING,	Boston, Mass.
HENRY MITCHELL,	Norwich, N. Y.
NATHAN HYNS SMITH,	Baltimore, Md.
VALENTINE MOTT,	New York.
REUBEN D. HUSSEY,	Cincinnati, Ohio.
WILLIAM TULLY,	New Haven.
RICHMOND BROWNELL,	Providence, R. I.
WILLIAM BRADMONT,	St. Louis, Mo.
SAMUEL HENRY DICKSON,	Charleston, S. C.
STEPHEN W. WILLIAMS,	Dorchester, Mass.
WILLARD PARKER,	New York.
BENJAMIN TICKNOR,	U. S. Navy.
ALDEN MARCE,	Albany, N. Y.
CHARLES A. LEE,	New York.
DAVID S. C. B. SMITH,	Providence, R. I.
HENRY D. BULKLEY,	New York.
J. MARION SYMS,	Montgomery, Ala.
JOHN WATSON,	New York City.
FRANK H. HAMILTON,	Genoa, N. Y.
ROBERT WATTS,	New York.

ORDINARY MEMBERS.

The names of those Members who are exempt from taxation by age, are in italics; the names of those who have been Presidents of the Society, are in capitals.

HARTFORD COUNTY.

CHURCHES.

WILLIAM E. BROWNELL, M. D., Clerk.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| HARTFORD, GEORGE SUMNER, | Thompsonville, J. Baker Bank. |
| Henry Babcock, Samuel B. Brewster, | FAIRHAVEN, Asahel Thompson. |
| George B. Hawley, Gardiner W. Haw- | Pineville, G. A. Moody. |
| cock, David Crary, F. W. Ellsworth, | Greenwich, William H. Sage. |
| Business Agents, E. K. Hart, John | UNIVERSITY, Ralph Oliver, Church |
| S. Butler, H. A. Grant, J. C. Jack- | Board. |
| son, A. W. Hartness, Thomas Hunt, | South Greenfield, C. E. Hammond. |
| M. W. Wilson, William Porter, | Lebanon, J. Andrew, Henry Gilbert. |
| Charles P. Kelt, John H. Wells, | Eastbury, Nelson Snodgrass. |
| William E. Brownell, F. W. Har- | GRANBY, James Case, Joseph F. Jones. |
| ding, S. C. Pritchard, A. Harrison. | Four Greenly, Charles Randall. |
| WEST HARTFORD, Edward Brown. | West Greenly, James D. Wilson. |
| Avon, Alfred Kellogg. | MANCHESTER, W. C. Williams, W. |
| Berlin, E. Randall, Jr. | Scott. |
| NEW BRITAIN, Samuel Hart, Rowell | ROCKY HILL, Stephen Babbitt, — |
| Hawley, E. D. Hilditch, B. N. Con- | Greenfield. |
| lyet. | Simsbury, Roderick A. White. |
| SHARONVILLE, Henry Hart. | Troyville, George W. Sanford, Charles |
| SHRIMTON, Joseph W. Camp, John S. | W. Briggs. |
| Moody. | SUDBURY, Julius S. Barnes, S. H. |
| SHREWSBURY, William Elton, 25. | Brighton, F. A. Hart. |
| CANTON, Collinsville, Isaac D. H. Tiffany. | SOUTH WINDSOR, Hanson C. Gilbert, |
| EAST HARTFORD, Eli Hall, Seth L. | Nelson Rockwell, William Wood. |
| Child, Charles M. Brownell, H. B. | SPRINGFIELD, Samuel D. Low, Anna |
| Chapman. | Ellis. |
| EAST WINDSOR, Elmer Watson. | WATERBURYFIELD, E. F. Fiske, A. S. |
| David Wood, Mervin L. Fisk. | Warner, R. Fox. |
| WINDSOR, Fred, Joseph Chastant. | WYOMING, William S. Pierce. |
| ENFIELD, J. E. Coombs, A. L. Spald- | Windsor Locks, Samuel W. Stanner, |
| ing, H. A. Grant. | Plainsville, Oliver B. Briggs. |

NEW HAVEN SOCIETY.

Chairman.

S. G. HERBARD, M. D., Clerk.

NEW HAVEN, *Rev. T. P. Berry*,
Jonathan Knight, Samuel Pondron,
 A. S. Munson, Charles Becker, Na-
 than B. Ives, E. H. Bishop, E. D.
 North, J. A. Totten, Levi Ives, Elias
 A. Jewett, D. L. Duggitt, George O.
 Sumner, D. A. Tyler, Henry Bos-
 son, E. A. Park, S. G. Hubbard, J. L.
 Moody, W. J. Whiting, A. C. Blak-
 ton, H. W. E. Malins, C. A. Lind-
 ley, Worthington Hooker, Charles
 Ryington, T. P. Berry, Jr., K. Blac-
 ker, Noah B. Welch, John Need,
 G. E. Badington, John K. Davis,
 E. B. Bill.
 WARELL, Samuel Lloyd.
 FINE HILLS, C. S. Thompson, W. H.
 White, Lyman Foster, W. L. Kel-
 logg.
 REFRANK, Asa C. Woodward.
 BRANFORD, Willoughby L. Lay, Har-
 vey B. Way, Jacob O. Loomis.
 NORTH BRANFORD, Shekhan Renssley.
 CHESTER, A. J. Driggs.
 ANSONIA, Samuel P. Church.
 BRIDGEPORT, Andrew Renssley, T.
 Dutton.

HARTFORD, E. D. Swift.
 HARTFORDVILLE, Albert Noddard, Shal-
 den C. Johnson, Joshua Kendall,
 Thomas Noddard.
 EAST HAVEN, John Furshaw.
 NORTH HAVEN, Rowell F. Sullivan.
 GUILFORD, Joel Canfield, Albert Tal-
 cott.
 MAYFIELD, Reginald With.
 MERRIDEN, Lewis Barnes.
 WEST MERRIDEN, B. H. Caffin, Edward
 W. Hatch.
 YALBART, C. B. McCarty.
 MILFORD, Hall Allen, L. N. Beardsley.
 NARRAGANSETT, J. D. Meier, Timothy
 Langdon.
 SOUTHBURY, A. B. Barrist.
 SOUTH BRITAIN, N. C. Baldwin.
 WALLINGFORD, R. Harrison, Silasiah
 Burks, Samuel N. Howell.
 WATERBURY, M. C. Loringworth, G.
 L. Platt, John Deacon, George E.
 Perkins, M. H. Perkins, Sturges
 Babbley, P. G. Rockwell.
 WOODBRIDGE, Isaac Canfield, Andrew
 Canfield.

NEW LONDON SOCIETY.

ASHBEL WOODWARD, M. D., Chairman.

ALBERT HODGES, M. D., Clerk.

NEW LONDON, *Dyer T. Leonard*, Na-
 thaniel S. Perkins, James Morgan,
 Isaac G. Potter, Wm. W. May, Jr.,
 Seth Smith, D. P. French, Albert
 Holman, Robert J. Munro, P.
 R. Butler.
 NARRAGANSETT, Richard P. Tracy, Emma
 Gould, Eliza Dyer, Eliza Plowry,
 John D. Ford, Edwin Bentley, Ben-
 jamin S. Dunn, John P. Fisher,
 Alvin Fisher, Harriet Thomson,
 Henry W. Lewis, Daniel G. Galtier,
 BARNES, Samuel Johnson.
 COLCHESTER, Enslit H. Parsons,
 Frederick Mayson.
 EAST LIME, John F. Smith, Anna F.
 Perkins.
 FRANKLIN, Ashbel Woodward.
 GROTON, Joseph Dyer.

NORFOLK, A. T. Douglass.
 LEXINGTON, Joseph Canfield, Ralph P.
 Green.
 LEBANON, George Perry, Robert W. Ma-
 sham.
 LYNN, Richard Nixon, John Sayre.
 NORTH LYNN, Wm. W. J. Warren.
 MOOREVILLE, Samuel E. Maynard.
 CUMMINGTON, John C. Heller.
 NIPMUN SPRINGFIELD, Thos. P. Wadley.
 PATERSON, Anna Dyer, Eliza D.
 Thomas.
 PLYMOUTH, Henry C. Randall.
 SHELTON, Nathaniel Foster.
 SAGAMORE, William Hyde, George
 E. Palmer, William Hyde, Jr.
 MAINE, Moses Manning.
 MAINE FISH, E. F. Conte, A. W.
 Chase.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY.

Chairman.

JUSTIS SHERRWOOD, Clerk.

FAIRFIELD, S. P. Y. R. Ten Brook.	HUNTINGTON, James H. Slusher.
Gowdell, Rufus Hickman.	MORRIS, Salmon H. Hall.
Southport, Justin Sherrwood.	NEW CANAAN, Samuel S. Ayer, Lewis
BRIDGEPORT, D. H. Nash, Frederick	Richards.
J. Johnson, L. W. Bennett, William	NEWFALL, John A. McLean, his Depu-
B. Nash, Robert Hubbard, H. N.	ties.
Bennett, L. F. Henderson.	STAMFORD, S. D. Haigh, Samuel
ROCKFORD, Nash A. Long, A. L.	Nash, Lewis Harburt.
Williams.	STRAFFORD, William T. Slusher.
DAVENNY, R. B. Bangs, E. P.	THURSDALE, E. J. J. B. MIDDLE-
Bennett.	BROOK, George Hoy.
ELSTON, James Balfour, Alvan P.	WESTPORT, George Buckman, David
Tucker.	S. Barr.

WINDHAM COUNTY.

HARVEY CAMPBELL, M. D., Chairman.

JAMES B. WHITCOMB, M. D., Clerk.

BOOTHBAYS, James R. Whitcomb, Dan-	CONCOURSE, Elijah Balfour, Jr.
iel M. Hale, William Woodbury.	POMFRET, Bruce Hall, Lewis Wil-
JAFFORD, John H. Sturges.	liams.
CANTONMENT, Elijah Balfour, Joseph	STEWART, William A. Lewis.
Fahnest.	THURSPAC, North Hamden, John Mc-
CHAPLIN, Omer Winter.	Geary.
HAMPTON, Dyer Hughes, Wm. South-	TOLLAND, Henry Campbell.
KILLBUCK, Deserille, Justin Ham-	WINDHAM, Oliver Root, Dr. Wm C.
mond.	Ludrup.
Nash Killbuck, David A. Henry.	WILLINGTON, John Hill, Jr.
East Killbuck, E. E. Hill.	Sumner, Calvin B. Brimley.
West Killbuck, David E. Hall, Samuel	WINDHAM, North, Ann Winter.
Hawkins, Stephen C. Goggin.	South Windham, Lawrence Barry.
QUINCY, Henry W. Bough, Thomas	West Windham, Milton Bradford,
W. Perry.	Charles B. Rogers.
PLAINFIELD, William B. Cogswell.	LASTING, Henry Tracy.
MOORE, Mary Rogers, Nathan S. Pike,	
Brown Rogers, Lewis E. Dixon.	

LITCHFIELD COUNTY.

SAMUEL T. SALISBURY, M. D., Chairman.

GEORGE SEYBOLD, M. D., Clerk.

LITCHFIELD, Samuel Root, Joseph G.	CORNEWALL, Martin B. North, John H.
Beckwith, George Seymour, D. E.	Wick.
Buckrick, Charles Vol. R. Os-	West Cornwall, Samuel W. Gold.
born.	COLLINGSBURY, Seth Pease.
South Pierse, Garry H. Miner.	GRAND'S RIDGE, General H. St. John.
CANAN, Thamar H. Smith.	GROTON, A. M. Bailey.
South Canan, John A. Gilbert.	HARTFORD, V. Miles.

KEW, <i>Wells Bunting</i> , Johnson C.	SHAW, Ralph Denning, Chassey
Hatch, John E. Smith.	Reed.
NEW HAVEN, <i>Abiel Williams</i> , Wm.	TORREY, <i>Walsworth</i> , Francis
R. Lacy.	Barnes, J. W. Phelps
<i>Asheville</i> , Horace Johnson.	WARR, O. Brown.
NEWARK, <i>William W. Welch</i> , E. D.	WASHBURN, <i>Mary Peters</i> .
Hazzen.	WASHINGTON, R. M. Foster.
PLYMOUTH, <i>Samuel T. Salisbury</i> .	NEW PRISTON, <i>Sidney H. Lyman</i> , Ed-
<i>Myron Hildes</i> , William Woodruff	ward F. Lyman.
ROCKFORD, <i>Myron Downs</i> .	WATKINS, <i>Samuel Cullen, Jr.</i>
SALISBURY, <i>O. Plumb</i> , William J.	WICHAMSTER, <i>West Winsted</i> , James
Burge.	Welch, H. G. Winsted, J. W. Bal-
LESTER, <i>Benjamin Welch, Jr.</i> , Wm.	well.
M. Knight.	WINDHAM, <i>Charles H. Welch</i> .

WINDHAM COUNTY.

CHARLES WOODWARD, M. D., Chairman.

ELIOT R. SYE, M. D., Clerk.

MIDDLEBURY, <i>Joseph Barrett</i> , Charles	EAST HARTFORD, <i>Joe M. Holt</i> , Doro
Woodward, William B. Casey, Da-	Williams.
vid Harrison, Franklin Woodruff,	HARTMAN, ———— Balwell.
Eliza E. Sye, George W. Barker.	HAYDEN, <i>William H. Tyngden</i> .
CHATHAM, <i>East Hayden</i> , Francis G.	KILLINGWORTH, <i>Richard M. Buel</i> .
Edgerton.	PORTLAND, <i>George O. Jervis</i> , <i>Stephen</i>
<i>Abbie Hadden</i> , A. B. Worthington.	<i>Foley</i> , G. C. H. Gilbert.
CHESTER, S. W. Tamm.	STEELE, <i>Asa H. King</i> .
CLETON, <i>Dwight H. Hubbard</i> .	<i>Jessie Rice</i> , <i>Rufus Baker</i> .
CROWELL, <i>Isa Hutchinson</i> .	OUR SAYMONS, <i>Essex</i> , <i>Alexander H.</i>
DUNHAM, <i>Benjamin M. Taylor</i> .	<i>Hough</i> , <i>Frederick W. Shepard</i> .

TOLLAND COUNTY.

TIMOTHY DEMOCK, M. D., Chairman.

GILBERT H. PIERCE, Clerk.

TOLLAND, <i>Alfred Ladd</i> , Oliver K.	South Mansfield, <i>East Seige</i> .
Loom, <i>Gilbert H. Preston</i> .	SEABOARD, <i>Anna Wood</i> , <i>Emerson F.</i>
BOLTON, <i>Charles F. Sumner</i> .	Hambro.
COLUMBIA, <i>Harmon McIntosh</i> .	SEABOARD, <i>East</i> , <i>William X. Clark</i> ,
CUMFERT, <i>North</i> , <i>Elmer East</i> .	<i>Elmer S. Beebe</i> .
St. Country, T. Demock.	SHARPE, <i>West</i> , <i>Joshua C. Budget</i> .
ELANDERS, <i>Alfred Holt</i> , <i>Hattie Dow</i> ,	UNITED, E. Easley.
J. H. Manning.	VERNON, <i>Allen Skinner</i> .
HEDDEN, <i>JOHN S. PETERS</i> , <i>Orin</i>	WILBRO, M. M. Fiske.
C. White, <i>Josh A. Woodward</i> .	WILLINGTON, <i>Francis L. Dickinson</i> .
MASTERS, <i>North</i> , <i>Norman Brigham</i> ,	
W. H. Richardson.	

**SUMMARY OF ORDINARY MEMBERS FOR 1854, WITH THE
DEATHS IN THE YEAR ENDING APRIL 1, 1854.**

	Payable.	Not Payable.	Total.	Deaths.
Hartford County,	72	4	60	1
New Haven County,	67	11	78	1
New London County,	37	11	50	1
Fairfield County,	25	8	33	1
Windham County,	34	3	37	1
Litchfield County,	22	4	31	1
Middlesex County,	21	1	25	1
Tolland County,	17	3	22	1
Total,	294	34	324	10

Note. Former Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society, are present members of the Annual Convention, having the privilege of attending all meetings, and performing all the duties of attending members, except that of casting their votes. And all members of the Society *are required*, by the By-Laws, to be present at all meetings of the Convention.

DEATHS OF MEMBERS DURING THE YEAR ENDING APRIL 1, 1854.

WITH THE AGE AND DISEASE BY WHICH AS ASCERTAINED.

Hartford County. Archibald Welch, by the Railroad Disaster at Norwich, aged 59.

New Haven County. Jonathan Barlow, Meriden, Pithitis, aged 49.

New London County. F. D. Broadbent, New London, Pithitis, aged 27.
Ephraim Fellows, Middletown, aged 80. Alvah Gray, No. Stonington, aged —.

Fairfield County. Samuel Beach, killed in the Norwich Disaster, aged —.

Windham County. Samuel Brown, Thompson, Chronic Diarrhea, aged —.

Litchfield County. William Weston, Northfield, aged 47.

Middlesex County. Richard Warner, Chronic Disease of the Digestive Organs, aged 59.

Tolland County. Adoniah White, Andover, Chronic Disease of the Liver and Gallbladder, aged 58.

DUTIES OF CLERK.

To warn County Meetings.

To record the proceedings of the County Meetings.

To collect the taxes, and pay the same to the Treasurer.

To transmit to the Secretary a list of the elected Fellows, and this person recommended as a candidate for a gratuitous course of lectures, immediately after the County Meetings, for publication.

To make certificates of fellowship, to be transmitted to the Secretary, on or before the first day of the Convention.

To transmit duplicate lists of the Members of the Society, to the Secretary and Treasurer, on or before the first day of the Convention; on the penalty of five dollars for each neglect.

To return to the Treasurer the names of delinquent Members of the Society.

To report to the Secretary of the State Convention, on the first day of its session, the names, ages, and dwellings of the Members of this Society, who may have died during the year preceding the 1st of April in each year, in their several County Societies.

RULES OF ORDER.

1. Organization.
2. Certificates of Membership presented and read by Secretary.
3. Committee on the election of Fellows.
4. Address of President.
5. Election of officers for the ensuing year.
6. Unfinished business of previous year disposed of.
7. Recognition and references, without debate, of Communications, Resolves, &c., from the several Counties, and Members of the Convention.
8. Reading Treasurer's Report.
9. Committee to audit the same.
10. Committee on Debentures.
11. Standing Committees appointed.
12. Committee to nominate Delegates to National Convention.
13. Committee on Candidates for gratuitous course of Lectures.
14. Committee on Honorary Degrees and Honorary Membership.
15. Committee to nominate Dissertator.
16. Dissertation.
17. Reports of Committees appointed on County Communications, Resolves, &c.
18. Reports of Standing Committees.
19. Reports of Committees in the order in which business was brought forward in Convention.
20. Miscellaneous business.

Adopted May, 1850.

DISSERTATIONS READ IN CONVENTION.

SINCE THE YEAR 1800.

1800. Dr. Nathaniel Dwight, on *Lissey*.
1804. Dr. Samuel Willard, on the *Stafford Mineral Waters*.
1817. Dr. W. B. Fowler, on the *Deleterious Effects of Ardent Spirits*.
1818. Dr. William Bach, on *Ergot*.
1820. Dr. Thomas Miner, on *Typhus Fever*.
1821. Dr. Samuel Rockwell, on *Uterine Hemorrhage*.
1822. Dr. William Tully, on the *Yellow Fever at Middlebury*.
1823. Dr. Dyer T. Brainard.
1827. Dr. Samuel B. Woodworth, on the *Biography of the Physicians of the State*.
1829. Dr. George Sumner, on *Extrasensitile Perception*.
1830. Dr. Charles Hooker, on *Diseases of the Ear*.
1835. Dr. Benjamin Welch, Jr., on the *Vitality of the Blood*.
1836. Dr. E. H. Bishop, *Influence of Moral Passions on Disease*.
1837. Dr. Archibald Welch, on *Scarlet Fever*.
1838. Dr. Isaac G. Purser, on the *Disease commonly denominated Spinal Irritation*.
1839. Dr. Henry Bronson, on the *Mental Qualifications necessary to a Physician*.
1840. Dr. Richard Warner, on the *Advantages of prompt and efficient practice in Acute Diseases*.
1841. Dr. Amariah Brigham, on *Insanity as a subject of Medical Jurisprudence*.
1842. Dr. Charles Woodward, on *Uterine Irritation*.
1843. Dr. Packney W. Ellsworth, on *Phlebotomy*.
1844. Dr. Warhington Hooker, on the *Respect due to the Medical Profession, and the reasons that it is not awarded by the Community*.
1845. Dr. Nathan B. Ives, on *Laryngismus Stridulus*.
1846. Dr. Theodore Sill, *Observations on Typhus Fever*.
1847. Dr. E. K. Hunt, on the *Importance of a Medical Organization, and the advantages resulting from it*.

1848. Dr. B. P. Barker, Remarks on some forms of disease of the
Cervix Uteri.
1848. Dr. Alvan Talcott, on Hygiene.
1850. Dr. Johnson C. Hatch, on Medical Jurisprudence.
1851. Dr. George Sumner, on the Early Physicians of Connecticut.
1853. Dr. Rufus Blakeman, Early Physicians of Fairfield County.
1853. Dr. Samuel Beach, on Popularizing Medicine.
1854. Dr. Wm. B. Casey, on Diseased Cervix Uteri.

APPENDIX.

Report of the Annual Examination of the Medical Institution of Yale College, for the year 1854.

THE EXAMINING COMMITTEE convened on Wednesday, January 25th, and continued in session two days. Present on the part of the Connecticut Medical Society:

Phineas W. Elisworth, M. D., of Hartford

Harford N. Bennett, M. D., of Bridgeport

Joseph G. Berkwitz, M. D., of Litchfield.

On the part of Yale College—Prof. J. Knight, T. P. Barry, C. Barker, H. Benson, W. Barker, and J. A. Foster.

J. G. Berkwitz, M. D., was appointed President *pro tempore*. Richard Warner, M. D., President of the Connecticut Medical Society, deceased.

Ten candidates were examined, and recommended for the Degree of Doctor in Medicine, viz.

1. Burr Reese Alden, Boston, Mass., on "*Lepus Tuberculosa*."

2. William Orville Ayres, B. A., 1837, Boston, Mass., on "*Typhus*," with the Valedictory Address.

3. Erasmus Bradley Bate, New Haven, on "*Retained Placenta*."

4. John Kimsey Downes, New Haven, on "*Puerperia*."

5. Josiah Griffin Ely, Lyme, on "*Continued Fever*."

6. Hamlin Nelson Howard, Abbeot, Mass., on "*Intermittent Fevers*."

7. John Nicoll, New Haven, on "*The Cause, Duration, and Termination of Disease*."

8. Henry Pierpont, Litchfield, on "*Induction of Premature Labor*."

9. Moses Henry Wilkman, Fairfield, on "*Digestion*."

10. Moses Clark White, B. A., Wesleyan University, 1842, Andover, N. Y., on "*The Absorption of Opium*."

The Valedictory Address by Dr. Ayres, of the Graduating Class, and an Annual Address to the Candidates, by P. W. Elisworth, M. D., of Hartford, of the Board of Examiners, were given on Thursday evening, in presence of a large audience, in the Medical College; after which the Degrees were conferred by President Warner.

Harford N. Bennett, M.D., of Bridgeport, and Benjamin H. Catlin, M.D., of Meriden, were appointed to give the Annual Address to the Candidates in 1855 and 1856.

J. G. Beckwith, M.D., was appointed to report the proceedings of the Board to the President and Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society.

Adjourned sine die.

CHARLES HOOKER, Secretary.

The published report of the Secretary of the Faculty of the Medical Institution of Yale College, just read, presents the names of the Board of Examination present at the Annual Examination for Degrees, at the Medical Institution of Yale College, in the close of the Lecture Term, on the 25th and 26th January, 1854, and also the names of the Graduates of the Institution, with the subjects of the Thesis read and defended by them on that occasion.

But it has been customary for the Committee of Examination to report to the Annual Convention such other information, in relation to the Graduating Class and the prosperity of the Institution, and to make such suggestions in reference to the common interest of the College and the Medical Society, as they deem wise and expedient.

In behalf of the Board of Examination, it gives us much pleasure to report to the Convention that without an exception the candidates for graduation sustained themselves with unusual ability and received the unanimous approval of the Board of Examination.

Your Committee would further report that while the entire class gave the most satisfactory evidence of more than usual preparation for the arduous duties of their profession, there was in the class one gentleman who has distinguished himself by his extensive researches in natural history, and another had been a missionary in dispatching to the Chinese the great improvements of the present age in Medicine and Surgery, all of which sustained the opinion so often expressed in the reports of your Examining Committee, that the Graduates of this Medical Institution are no inferior in scientific attainments or professional ability to the graduates of any other medical college in this or any other country.

We are happy to report that the Medical Clinicque has been well sustained during the past lecture term, and the number of subjects furnished for the dissecting-table and for private dissection have been amply sufficient for the exigencies of the class.

The students, as heretofore, have had the advantages of private examinations on the lectures of the day, by an association of the Professors of the College, united by distinguished practitioners of the city of New Haven, thus giving to the student the advantages of learning with the theory of his professor lessons of wisdom from the lips of experience, which are of great practical value to the young practitioner of Surgery and Medicine.

The funds of the College now justify a liberal annual expenditure for additions to the College Library, the already extensive and well-selected preparations of the Museum, and all the other improvements of the present age necessary to enable

the student to acquire that knowledge which will prepare him to discharge the high and responsible duties of his profession satisfactorily to his brethren and the public.

We are happy also to notice that among the contributions to the College are plates, books, apparatus and marbled specimens from Graduates of our own school, in this and foreign lands, who crime the appreciation and regard in which they hold their venerable Alma Mater, by valuable and useful donations, which shall hand down to successive Medical Classes their names, long after they have ceased to exist upon the earth.

Connected with this topic, we will not deem it inappropriate to advert not only the members of the Convention, but every member of the Convention Medical Society, to give his influence in aid of the application for an appropriation from the State for the benefit of the General Hospital in this city. This Hospital has a claim upon the profession paramount to any other which can be presented for our consideration at this time. The liberal endowments of public Hospitals are justly regarded as among the evidences of the prosperity and liberality of the State, of the wisdom of her executive and legislative departments, as fountain of exhaustless charity, and the crowning characteristic of Christianity.

Be a fair representation of the claims which this appropriation has upon the General Assembly now convened, made by the profession upon the individual members from this several towns, I have no reasonable doubt but what such an appropriation can be obtained from the treasury of this State as will enable the corporation of the General Hospital Society to extend to every person legitimately entitled to its benefits, (whenever his indigency has been lost, whether as the owner or the land, in fighting the battles of his country, in sustaining her commerce, or in the more quiet pursuits of agriculture, or manufacturing, irrespective of color or birthplace,) the free and inextinguishable benefits of the acknowledged preeminent medical skill and surgical talent connected with the Hospital and the College. Here will then be found a refuge which will shelter the poor sufferer from the storms and tempests of life, where will be furnished not only the best surgical skill, with the ablest medical advice, but the most devoted nurses, professionally enforcing the rules of diet so necessary to the sick, and so difficult of attainment in private practice. And in innumerable cases, here will be faithfully administered the consolations of our religion; and when science, skill and philanthropy can do no more for the poor sufferer, he will have received a Christian burial. It will also give the benefit of the skill of experienced operative surgeons to patients from other parts of the State, in important and difficult operations, without charge, (except for board and nursing,) under most advantageous circumstances for recovery, first in the almshouses of the country, or even in many private dwellings.

It will also confer upon the Medical College, by giving to its students more widely extended fields of research and observation, an advantage so treacherously claimed in the large cities of the Union, and far less more intensively attended schools of New York and Philadelphia.

If the professions are true to themselves, to the acknowledged wants of the State, to the interests which we represent in this Convention, to the claims of the College upon us, and if we exert the influence to which the profession are justly entitled, in all reasonable appropriations for the public good, and the cause of

efferring humanity, we believe such an appropriation will be made by the General Assembly of this State; that our Hospital now struggling for existence will take rank with our Retreat for the Insane, and our Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb, as among the proudest and most enduring monuments of philanthropy in our land.

Respectfully submitted in behalf of the Board of Examiners,

J. G. BECKWITH, Chairman.

CIRCULAR OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY.

At the Annual Meeting of the New Hampshire Medical Society, held at Concord, June 1, 1853, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That it is the decided opinion of the New Hampshire State Medical Society, that no Delegate should be admitted to membership in the American Medical Association, who represents a medical society which numbers among its members any person or persons who adopt as their system of practice any form of empiricism.

Resolved, That the Secretary of this Society be instructed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Secretaries of each of the State Medical Societies, and to the Secretaries of the American Medical Association, previous to their next Annual Meeting.

E. K. WEBSTER,

Secretary N. H. Medical Society

BOSTON, June, 1853.

CIRCULAR OF THE LITCHFIELD COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY.

Published by Vote of the Convention.

DEAR SIR,

At the Annual Meeting of the Litchfield County Medical Society, held at Litchfield, April 17th, 1854, the following Resolution was unanimously adopted, viz.

Resolved, That a Committee of Five be appointed, to prepare a tariff of fees, and report the same by Circular to each member, which shall be considered as

binding from June 1st to our next meeting; and that our Fellows be assumed to present the same to the State Medical Society.

The undersigned, a Committee appointed in accordance with the above Resolution, report as follows:

Office prescriptions, 0 to \$1.00. Letter of advice to attending Physician, 50 to 80. Visit within one mile, 50 to 75 cents. Each additional mile, 25 cents. Extra attendance, per hour, 0 to 80. Consultation: three miles and under, double the usual charge—over three miles, \$2 to \$5 and travel. Night calls, double the usual charge. Ordinary obstetrical cases, 84 to 65; beyond six miles, more extra. Extraction of tooth, 42 to 810. Ext. tooth and venesection, 0 to 84 each. Capping, 30 cents to 84. Dislocations, Hip, 85 to 810; Shoulder, 80 to 88; other dislocations, 81 to 82. Fracture of Thigh, first dressing, 85 to 810; Leg, 85 to 88; other fractures, 84 to 85; subsequent dressings, 30 cents to 84 above ordinary visit. Trephining, 820 to 880. Amputations—Thigh, 820 to 880; Leg, 820 to 840; Arm, Forearm, and Breast, 820 to 880. Small-Pox, or where infection is apprehended, double the usual charge.

From the very limited time allowed, your Committee have been unable to go further into detail. The above list, however, is believed to embrace the more important items, and may serve as a guide toward uniformity. The prices annexed are put down as the maximum, the main design being to prevent undercharging; leaving each practitioner to make such additional charge as his particular situation, or the circumstances of the case may seem to demand.

Your Committee would further recommend that no physician be made his patients residing in the same vicinity, where a visit is considered necessary.

GEORGE SEYMOUR, SAM'L T. SALISBURY,
BENJ. WELCH, D. E. BOSTWICK,
WILLIAM W. WELCH.

LITHUANIA, April 27, 1864.

RESOLUTION

Introduced to the Convention by the New London County Medical Society.

Resolved, That the Fellows leave this Query (by before the State Medical Society the propriety of taking measures to have a general law respecting the conditions on which Patent Medicines may or shall be disposed of in the State, and introduce for consideration the proposed law relating to Patent Medicines, now before the Legislature of the State of New York.

ON THE SALE OF PATENT MEDICINES.

Mr. Whitney, in pursuance of notice, introduced the following bill (which was referred to the Committee on Medical Colleges,) being—

AN ACT

RELATIVE TO THE SALE OF PATENT MEDICINES.

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

§ 1. It shall not be lawful for any physician, druggist, apothecary, or any person, or persons, engaged in preparing or manufacturing any medicine, or compound, to be given or administered as a medicine, (except such medicines and compounds as are published in standard works of Chemistry, *Medicæ Mædon*, *Pharmacopœia*), to offer the same for sale, either himself, or by his agents, without first filing in the office of the County Clerk in the county where he resides, a receipt of the medicine, compound, or mixture, written or printed in the English language, stating the name of the drug or drugs, medicine or medicines, or ingredients of which it is compounded, together with the proportions of each, with an affidavit attached, taken and subscribed before some officer, who is by law authorized to take the acknowledgment of deeds, stating that the receipt to which said affidavit is attached is a true receipt of all the medicines, and their proportions, of which the said medicine or compound is composed.

§ 2. It shall not be lawful for any druggist, apothecary, or other person or persons, to sell or offer for sale any preparation, medicine or compound, intended to be administered as a medicine, except such as are published in standard chemical or medical works, as provided in the first section of this act, unless there shall be affixed or attached thereto, in a conspicuous manner, a receipt written or printed in the English language, stating the names of all the ingredients, with their proportions, of which said preparation or compound is composed, and signed by the maker or manufacturer in his own handwriting, or by a scrivener of his handwriting, and referring to the office where a true copy of said receipt, with an affidavit attached, is filed according to the first section of this act.

§ 3. The provisions of the first and second sections of this act, shall not apply to the prescriptions of practicing physicians, nor to druggists or apothecaries in preparing the prescriptions of practicing physicians in the ordinary course of business.

§ 4. Any person who shall counterfeits the handwriting or *fac-simile* as referred to in the second section of this act, shall be deemed guilty of felony, and on conviction thereof, shall be punished according to law.

§ 5. Any person who shall make a false affidavit in relation to any such medicine or compound, shall be deemed guilty of perjury, and on conviction thereof, shall be punished according to law.

§ 6. Any person or persons who shall violate the provisions of this act, shall be considered guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof, shall be fined for each offense, a sum not less than \$10, nor more than \$900, or be imprisoned for a term not exceeding three months in a county jail.

§ 7. This act shall not take effect until the first day of January, 1855.

We publish, for the information of the profession, the following Act, passed by the General Assembly at their May Session, 1853, entitling the person making post-mortem examination to fee; omitted.

AN ACT

IN ADDITION TO "AN ACT CONCERNING CRIMES AND PUNISHMENTS."

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly assembled

That whenever in the opinion of the grand jury of any town, or the prosecuting officer of any county or city in this State, it shall be deemed important to ascertain the cause of death of persons found dead under circumstances justifying the suspicion that such persons may have died from violence or poison, such grand jury or public prosecutor may employ some competent person or persons, to make a post mortem examination of the bodies of such deceased persons, to obtain the proper evidence in relation to the death of such persons, and the cause of such death; and whenever such examination shall be made by direction of the proper authorities as aforesaid, a reasonable compensation shall be allowed therefor, to be paid by the State; and the Superior Court, upon proof that such service has been rendered, may tax and allow the same.

CIRCULAR OF THE HARTFORD COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY.*

Hartford, January 12th, 1884.

DEAR SIR:

At a meeting of the Hartford County Medical Society, held on this day, October 10th, 1883, a committee was appointed to collect materials for a Summary Report of this County. It is for this object that we now address you, and request your assistance in that respect. You will readily see how desirable it is that a summary history of each town in the County should be obtained, which can only be accomplished by the personal contributions of such Physicians. We seek no work of you when we present the following questions for your serious attention, answering such as you may be able, and adding such remarks or information as will make the history more complete.

A Medical History of your Town is what we especially want: this you can furnish yourself, or just run it up continuously with your brethren, but do so and the way we do to communicate such information as we ought to possess.

The questions are selected from those recommended by the General Board of Health of Massachusetts, and are thought to be sufficiently comprehensive, but you are desired to communicate any information not worked by these.

As members of a body of learned men, claiming to be scientific in character and pursuits, we owe something to the public as well as to ourselves. You can see, we dare say, that if we enter into this matter with spirit, we can bring together a mass of information that can be obtained in no other way, and which will be

* Forwarded to be brought before the Convention, but having been omitted by mistake, it is now published, by request, for the consideration of the State Medical Society.

of immense importance. The concerted action of so many minds will develop many valuable facts, and will enable us more faithfully to fulfil our duty, not only of curing disease, but as much as possible of preventing it.

May we then present this subject of a Sanitary History of our County to your earnest attention, and request that your communications be sent to the Chairman of this Committee by the middle of March next, so that a Report may be prepared for our County Meeting in April.

GUDON W. RUSSELL, A. S. WARNER, G. A. MOODY, HORACE C. GILLETTE, OLIVER B. GRIGGS.	} Committee.
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INQUIRIES RELATIVE TO THE HEALTH, SICKNESS, AND MORTALITY OF THE INHABITANTS.

1. What is the general character and condition of the town, whether healthy or unhealthy? What is the state of the most unhealthy parts, or where the highest rate of mortality is supposed to occur? What are the causes usually assigned for such mortality?

2. Have cases of fever, dysentery, or other epidemic, endemic, or contagious disease, or others of fatal character, been of frequent or rare occurrence? Have they been mild or malignant, and under what circumstances or causes have they occurred?

3. What was the aggregate annual amount of sickness suffered in different parts of the town, and among families and persons of different classes and occupations?

4. Please to give, from the most authentic sources within your power, the sanitary history and condition of the town in past years, specifying the healthy and sickly years, and the number of deaths, and causes of such sickness and deaths that happened in each.

5. State the atmospheric cause of disease. In what kind of weather and season, hot or cold, wet or dry, changeable or steady, or otherwise, did the diseases of different kinds occur? Whether in a hill, plain, or in a valley, exposed or protected from north, south, east and west winds? or in places subject to fogs or early frosts? and whether in a general epidemic or healthy season? Were there any peculiar circumstances observed in the appearance of insects, fish, or other animal life? or in vegetable productions? or in the electric or atmospheric phenomena? What other atmospheric cause occurred?

6. State the local cause of disease. Was it near to or distant from running water? or in the vicinity of marsh, bogs, low lands, drained or undrained, sometimes overflowed, sometimes dry; near stagnant water; natural or artificial mill or other ponds, constantly or occasionally full? or near other sources of miasm? Was it near any vegetable or animal matter in a state of decomposition; or other fish, impurities, or noxious exhalations, or unwholesome endemic influence, or contagious disease of any kind? Was the house or houses, in which different

drained occurred, safely removed, or otherwise? properly lighted, warmed, and ventilated? supplied with pure water? Were the springs and wells high or low? State any other local cause.

2. State the personal cause of disease. Whether the persons or families were natives of the town, or of other parts of the United States, or foreigners, or children of foreigners. If non-natives, how long resident in the town, or in their particular place of abode. What was the profession or occupation of the head of the family in which sickness or death occurred, or of the person, if over fifteen years of age? What was his hereditary or acquired constitution? What were the means of subsistence of the family, whether simple, moderate, or poor? Did they own or rent the house in which they lived? Were they industrious in their habits, cleanly in their persons and habitations, temperate and prudent in their diet and mode of living, or otherwise? Had their previous general health been good? or had they been exposed to personal contagion? Was the cause accidental or otherwise? State any other personal cause.

3. In your opinion, what proportion of the sickness and mortality of the town might be prevented if the causes of disease were known, and the laws of health were understood and obeyed?

Conclusions and Recommendations suggested by the Facts elicited.

4. What reforms do you desire, what distinctions do you make, or what regulations do you desire, from the facts elicited? What suggestions would you make, or what measures would you propose, or recommend, either municipal, social, or personal, to improve the sanitary condition of the town or its inhabitants? Please to specify measures and remedies; and suggest a mode by which they may be practically applied, and successfully carried into execution.

Act of Incorporation of the Connecticut Medical Society. Act in relation to the Medical Institution of Yale College. By-Laws, Medical Police, &c.

A N A C T

TO INCORPORATE THE CONNECTICUT MEDICAL SOCIETY.

Sect. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened, That the Physicians and Surgeons now members of the Connecticut Medical Society, and all Physicians and Surgeons who shall be associated with them in pursuance of the provisions of this act, shall be and remain a body politic and corporate, by the name of THE CONNECTICUT MEDICAL SOCIETY; and by that name, they and their successors shall and may have perpetual succession; shall be capable of suing and being sued, pleading and being impleaded,

in all suits of whatever name or nature; may have a common seal, and may alter the same at pleasure; and may also purchase, receive, hold and convey any estate, real or personal, to an amount not exceeding one hundred thousand dollars.

ART. 3. The members of the Society shall meet, annually, in their respective counties, at such places as have been or may hereafter be agreed upon by them, (on the second Thursday of April;) and shall elect from among themselves, a chairman, clerk and such other officers as they may find necessary; and being thus organized, shall thereupon immediately elect, by ballot, of their own number, in each county five, except in the counties of Middlesex and Tolland, and in each of those counties three Fellows, to have the superintendence and management of the Society. And the members of the Society in their respective county meetings, shall have power to adjourn said meetings from time to time, and to hold special meetings as they may judge expedient; and may adopt such regulations for their own government, and for the promotion of Medical Science, as they may think proper, not repugnant to the by-laws of the Society.

ART. 4. The Fellows thus chosen at the several county meetings, shall meet together, on the second Wednesday of May, annually, at such time and place as has been, or may be designated by them; and being thus assembled, shall elect by ballot, from among any of the members of the Society, a President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary of the Society, who shall hold their office one year and until others be chosen, and shall by virtue of their office, be Fellows of the Society for the time being; and shall have the same power, privileges and authority as if originally elected such by the members of the Society.

ART. 5. The President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Fellows thus chosen shall be known and called by the name of "THE PARLIAMENT AND FELLOWS OF THE CONNECTICUT MEDICAL SOCIETY;" a majority of whom, legally assembled together, shall be a quorum for the transaction of any business; and shall have power to make by-laws for the regulation and government of the Society, and for the promotion of the objects of the same, not repugnant to the laws of the United States or of this State; to expel any member of the Society for misconduct; to admit honorary members; to make rules for the admission of members of the Society, and for their dismission from the same; to lay a tax upon the members of the Society not exceeding two dollars in each year, to be collected by the clerks of the respective county meetings and to be paid over to the Treasurer of the Society; to dispose of the moneys thus raised, and all other property of the Society in such a manner as they may think proper, to promote the objects and interests of the Society.

ART. 6. At all the meetings of the Fellows for the transaction of business, the President of the Society, or in case of his absence, the Vice-President, shall preside; and in case of the absence of the President and Vice-President, the Fellows present may elect one of their own number as President for the occasion.

ART. 7. The President of the Society, or in case of his death, or absence out of the State, the Vice-President, on any special occasion shall have power to call a meeting of the President and Fellows, at such time and place as he may think proper, upon giving twenty days' notice in two newspapers printed in this State; and in case of the death, resignation or inability of the President, Vice-President, Treasurer or Secretary of the Society, the vacancy made thereby may be filled for the remainder of the year, by the Fellows, at any legal meeting duly assembled.

SEC. 7. It shall be the duty of the several clerks of the county meetings, in their respective counties, to collect and pay over to the Treasurer of the Society all such taxes as shall from time to time be laid by the President and Fellows, upon the members of the Society as aforesaid; and for that purpose said clerks may procure a warrant under the hand of a justice of the peace against such member or members of the Society, as shall neglect or refuse to pay the taxes so imposed upon them as aforesaid; which warrant any justice of the peace is hereby empowered to issue; and said warrant shall be directed to the sheriff or his deputies of the county in which such delinquent member or members reside; and said sheriff or either of his deputies, on receiving such warrant may proceed to enforce the collection of such tax or taxes, in the same manner, and with the addition of the same fees, as are by law provided, and allowed in the collection of taxes taxed. And if any of the clerks of the county meetings shall neglect or refuse to collect the taxes entrusted to him to collect, by the time the same are made payable, or having collected the same, shall neglect or refuse to pay the same over to the Treasurer of the Society, such Treasurer may cause a writ or writs to be issued against such delinquent in the name of the Society, before any court proper to try the same, and the same to pass to final judgment; and the clerks shall be allowed and receive a compensation of five per centum on all moneys collected by them respectively, and paid to the Treasurer of the Medical Society.

[SEC. 8. No physician or surgeon who shall have commenced practice since the year one thousand eight hundred, or who shall heretofore commenced practice, shall be entitled by law to receive any fee or fees for such practice, unless he shall have been duly licensed by some Medical Society or College of Physicians; and all persons licensed to practice physic and surgery and practicing within this State shall of course be members of the Medical Society. *Repealed, June, 1847.*]

Approved, June 1st, 1844.

AN ACT

IN ALTERATION OF AN ACT ENTITLED "AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE CONNECTICUT MEDICAL SOCIETY."

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened, That the several county meetings of the Connecticut Medical Society may change the time of holding said meetings to such time as they may severally appoint; and that so much of the act to incorporate the Connecticut Medical Society as is contrary to this act be, and is hereby repealed.

Approved, June 18th, 1847.

AN ACT

IN RELATION TO THE MEDICAL INSTITUTION OF YALE COLLEGE.

Sect. 1. *It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened.* The Medical Institution established in Yale College, pursuant to an agreement between the President and Fellows of Yale College, and the President and Fellows of the Medical Society of Connecticut, shall be known and acknowledged by the name of *THE MEDICAL INSTITUTION OF YALE COLLEGE.*

Sect. 2. There shall be established in the Institution not less than four nor more than six Professorships; and the price of the tickets for the course of lectures on each branch, shall not exceed twelve dollars and fifty cents. There shall be a joint committee of an equal number of persons appointed by the President and Fellows of Yale College and the President and Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society, who shall make a nomination; from which nomination the Professors shall be chosen by the President and Fellows of the College.

Sect. 3. Every medical student shall be required to attend in the study of physic and surgery, for two years with some medical or surgical professor or practitioner, who is of respectable standing; provided he shall have been graduated at some college; otherwise to study three years; to have acquired in addition to a good English education, a competent knowledge of the Latin language and of the principles of Natural Philosophy; to have arrived at the age of twenty-one years; to be of good moral character; and to deliver to the committee of examination a satisfactory dissertation upon some subject in medicine or surgery or the auxiliary branches. And every medical student shall attend one course of the lectures, under the professors of the Medical Institution of Yale College or of some other public medical institution, previously to his being admitted to an examination for a license; and the course or courses of lectures which he shall attend, may be included within the time he is required to study. Provided nevertheless, that upon the recommendation of the Medical Society in each county, one meritorious and necessitous person from such county shall annually be allowed the privilege of attending one course of lectures gratis, and if any one of the counties should fail to recommend as above, the President and Fellows of said Society may fill up the vacancy. It shall be the duty of the clerks of the several county meetings, to report to the President and Fellows, the names of the persons whom they shall agree to recommend; and the Secretary of the Society shall transmit the said names, together with such as the President and Fellows may add, agreeably to the above provision, to the Medical Professors of Yale College.

Sect. 4. Each candidate for the degree of Doctor in Medicine shall be required to attend two courses of lectures, at the Medical Institution of Yale College, or at some other public medical institution where a similar course of public instruction is pursued; which degree upon the recommendation of the committee of examination, shall be conferred by the President of the College, and the diploma signed by him and countersigned by the examining committee, or a majority of them; and the fee for graduation shall be fifteen dollars. The President of the College may also confer the honorary degree of Doctor in Medicine, upon those persons whom the President and Fellows of the Medical Society shall recommend for that purpose.

SEC. 5. The committee of examination for the practice of physic and surgery, shall consist of the Professors of the Medical Institution of the College and an equal number of the members of the Medical Society appointed by the President and Fellows of the same; and the President of the Medical Society shall be *ex officio* president of the examining committee, with a vote at all times, and a casting vote when there is a tie; and in case of the absence of the President, a *pro tempore* shall be appointed by the members of the examining committee chosen by the Medical Society, with the same powers; which committee or a majority of them shall possess the power and may only of examining for a license; and all licenses to practice physic or surgery shall be signed by the President of the Medical Society and countersigned by the Secretary of the committee of examination; which Secretary they are hereby authorized to appoint; and the fee for each license shall be four dollars, and shall accrue to the Medical Society. All licenses heretofore signed by the Clerk or Secretary of the examining committee, shall be valid and have the same effect, as if they had been signed by the examining committee, any law to the contrary notwithstanding.

SEC. 6. There shall be but one examination in the year, which shall be immediately at the close of the lectures; when a candidate is prevented by sickness from attending at that time, he may afterwards be examined by the medical professors; and such examination, together with four certificates thereof, shall entitle him to the same privileges as though his examination had been by said committee.

SEC. 7. All medical students who shall have attended two courses of the lectures in the Medical Institution shall have the privilege of attending all future courses gratis.

And be it further enacted, That the act entitled "An act to incorporate the Connecticut Medical Society, and to establish the Medical Institution of Yale College," and all acts in addition to, and in alteration thereof, be, and the same are hereby repealed; provided that all proceedings had, and all obligations imposed, in pursuance of the acts hereby repealed, shall have the same effect as though said acts were still in force—and all taxes heretofore laid pursuant to said acts, may be collected according to the provisions of said acts, in the same manner as though said acts had not been repealed.

Approved, June 30th. 1834.

BY LAWS

14—CONNECTICUT MEDICAL SOCIETY.

1. The Members of *this Society*, at any County Meeting legally holden, may, by a major vote of the members present, admit to membership in the Society any person regularly licensed to practice physic and surgery, and practicing in said county, who shall make application for that purpose.

2. They may, by a similar vote, dismit from the Society any Member who shall remove from this State, or who shall leave the profession for other pursuits.

3. They may also, if they deem it expedient, recommend to the President and Fellows of the Society, for dismission from the same, any Member residing in

their respective Counties, who shall apply for such dismission by a written request in that effect delivered to the Clerk of the County Meeting, at least ten days before the time of holding any legal County Meeting; and also any Member who shall refuse or neglect to pay taxes; and upon the approval of such recommendations by the President and Fellows in Convention, the connection between each Member and the Society shall be dissolved. *Provided*, that no Member shall be honorably dismitted from the Society until all his taxes shall have been paid.

4. All violations of the By-Laws of the Society, or of the Medical Police adopted by the Society, or of the Rules and Regulations passed by the County Meetings, in conformity with the By-Laws of the Society, may be prosecuted and tried by the Members of the Society, in their respective County Meetings, under the following regulations, viz.:

The Member accusing another of a violation of any of the before-mentioned Regulations, shall make a statement in writing of the transaction which he deems a misdemeanor, and lay the same before a Fellow of the Society; and such Fellow shall issue a notification to the accused, to appear before the next County Meeting, stating the time when, and the place where, it is to be held, to defend, if he see fit, against such accusation. A copy of such accusation and notification shall be left with the accused, or at his last usual place of abode, at least twelve days previous to the time of holding the next County Meeting. And the accuser shall cause the said accusation and notification to be served and returned to the Clerk of the County Meeting, on or before the day of their sitting; and the offender, upon conviction, may be punished by admonition, by suspension from the privileges of the Society for a period not exceeding two years, or by expulsion from the Society. *Provided*, that no sentence of expulsion shall be valid until concurred by the President and Fellows in Convention.

5. The several County Meetings are authorized to make such regulations as their local circumstances may require; *provided*, that such regulations be not contrary to the laws of the State, or the By-Laws of this Society.

6. When a new clerk is chosen in any of the Counties, his predecessor shall deliver over to him all the records and papers appertaining to the office, retaining copies of the same if he think proper.

The Clerks of the several County Meetings shall take the following oath, viz.:

"You, A. B., being chosen Clerk of the Meeting of the Medical Society for the County of ———, do swear that you will record all votes of said meeting, and give true copies of the same, when thereto required, *so help you God.*"

7. The Clerks shall transmit the names and places of residence of the Fellows, and of the person recommended for a gratuitous course of lectures, to the Secretary, immediately after the election in April, that the same may be published at least a week before the Convention. They shall also forward to the Secretary, and a duplicate copy to the Treasurer, on or before the first day of the Convention, the names of the members in their respective Counties, and their places of residence; and those who fail in the performance of this duty, shall be subject to a fine of five dollars, to be collected by the Treasurer.

§ II.—MINUTES.

8. Each Member of the Society shall have free access to the records of the Society, and of the County Meeting to which he belongs: and may take attested copies thereof if he request them.

9. All Members of this Society are invited to be present at the meetings of the President and Fellows, and to partake of the dinner on the first day of the session.

10. No member of this Society shall be called on for a tax that shall have been laid after he has arrived at the age of sixty years.

11. If any member of the Society shall make, read, or publicly communicate any obscene or potent jests, and be thereof convicted, he shall be suspended from the privileges of the Society, or expelled.

12. No Member of the Society shall hold professional consultation or intercourse with any other than licensed Physicians and Surgeons, in regular standing.

13. It shall be the duty of each Member of this Society to accuse any other Member of the Society, for such misdemeanor as he deems contrary either to the By-Laws, Medical Ethics, or Rules and Regulations adopted by the Society. And the accuser shall make a statement in writing, of the transactions which he deems a misdemeanor, and lay the same before a Fellow of the Society; and each Fellow shall issue a notice to the accused, to appear before the President and Fellows at their next Convention, stating the time and place of their sitting, to defend, if he see cause, against said accusation. A copy of said accusation and notification shall be left with the accused, or at his last usual place of abode, at least twelve days previous to the next Convention of the President and Fellows. And the accuser shall cause the said accusation and notification to be served and returned to the President and Fellows on the first day of their sitting.

§ III.—OFFICERS, PARAGRAPHS, &c.

14. The President and Fellows shall each receive two dollars for his attendance in the Convention, and twelve and a half cents for each mile's travel from the town of his residence to that of the Convention; mileage to be reckoned as it is to members of our State Legislature. The Treasurer shall be entitled to the same.

15. The Fellows of the Society shall be a Committee of Abatements in their respective Counties.

16. Each person receiving a license to practice from this Society, shall pay the sum of four dollars to the Clerk of the Committee of Examination, who shall account with the Treasurer for the same.

17. The Secretary shall be required to take the following oath, viz.:

"You, A. B., being chosen Secretary of the Connecticut Medical Society, do swear that you will count all votes of the President and Fellows, and give true copies when thereto requested, and faithfully perform all the duties relating to said office, so help you God."

It shall be the duty of the Secretary to receive all the transactions of the President and Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society in their Conventions, give true copies of the same when thereto requested, conduct their correspondence, and have the custody of the seal of the Society.

The Secretary is also instructed to send, each year, an extra copy of the Proceedings of the Convention to each of the Clerks, for the use of the County Meetings.

He is also requested to put up, each year, in at least three public houses in the town in which the Convention meets, a written notice of the place of meeting, at least one day before the sitting of the Convention.

18. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep the moneys of the Society, subject to their orders, and to render annually to the President and Fellows an account of all moneys received and paid by him. He is also directed to make out a general balance bill, taking for his guide the mileage allowed by the Legislature of the State.

He shall be allowed ten dollars for his services, on his account being accepted, at the end of each year.

No balance bill shall be paid by the Treasurer, that is more than seventeen years old.

19. The President of the Society and the Clerk of the Committee of Examination are authorized to grant a new License, free of expense, to any person who has been previously licensed, according to the laws of this State, upon satisfactory proof being exhibited to them that such previous license has been lost.

20. The Committee of Examination, the Committee to nominate Professors in the Medical Institution, and the Committee to nominate the Physicians to the Bureau for the Insane, shall be chosen by ballot. All other Committees shall be appointed by the Presiding Officer of the Convention.

21. The Standing Committees of the Society are requested annually to report to the President and Fellows, whenever they shall have occasion to act in their official capacity.

22. That it shall hereafter be the duty of the President of this Society to deliver an Address to the Convention annually.

23. Each County Meeting shall have the power to excommunicate the case and immediately expel any member notoriously in the practice of Homoeopathy, Hydropathy, or any other form of quackery, without any formal trial, the same to be ratified by the succeeding Convention, any By-Law to the contrary notwithstanding.

RESOLUTIONS NOW IN FORCE.

Resolved, That whenever the President shall see fit to call a special session of the Convention, besides advertising, as now provided, he shall also send a notice to each member, of the time and place of meeting, which notice shall be mailed at least one week previous to the meeting of such Convention. *Passed, May, 1846.*

Resolved, That before any person can be admitted into the office of a Physician, or a Student of Medicine, he shall furnish evidence of good moral character, and shall be examined by the preceptor and one of the Fellows of the Society: the examination to be upon the subjects of English literature, and Greek and Latin languages. If found qualified, he is to receive a certificate to that effect, and be enrolled as a regular student of medicine. *Passed, May, 1847.*

Resolved, That but two persons be elected on each of the Standing Committees each year; the first two on the list to be dropped, and the two chosen to be placed at the bottom; but any person may be re-elected. *Passed, May, 1847.*

Resolved, That it is the opinion of the Convention, that sluggards should be charged the same fees as other citizens, and that it shall not be considered dishonorable to collect the same.

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of the Clerks of the several counties, to report to the Secretary of the State Convention, on the first day of its session, the names, ages, and dwellings, of the members of this Society, who may have died during the year preceding the 1st of April in each year, in their several County Societies, and that the Secretary be directed to append these statistics to the catalogue of members of the Society in the published proceedings of the Annual Convention. *Passed, May, 1849.*

Resolved, That the clerks be required to comply with the By-Laws, which makes it their duty to report delinquents to the Convention, and the amount due from each respectively, making in each report also what notice he has given such delinquent of his indebtedness to the Society, and that the same be read to open Convention. *Passed, May, 1852.*

Resolved, That the following certificate of studies be required of all Candidates for examination—for a Degree.

I hereby certify that _____ has pursued the Study of Medicine with me for _____
and that he worked regularly on [here insert the branches pursued] during the above mentioned time.

Witness.

Passed, May, 1853.

Resolved, That the several County Meetings are hereby instructed to continue their investigations in relation to the manufacture, sale, recommendation and use of nostrums or Patent Medicines by their members, and to present to their next annual meeting any evidence so obtained.

Resolved, That no member of the Society, who is directly or indirectly interested in the manufacture, use or recommendation, or a sale of any nostrum or Patent Medicine, shall be eligible to any office. *Passed, May, 1853.*

Resolved, That the County Meetings be instructed to the recommendation of Students for Continuation Courses at *ENTERPRISE* Medical Institution of Yale College, to select as far as possible only those who have attended and paid the full course in that Institution, or who give satisfactory pledges that they will attend and pay for their second course there. *Passed, May, 1854.*

SYSTEM OF MEDICAL POLICE.

Adopted by the Society in October, 1817.

CONSULTATIONS.

Consultations should be encouraged in difficult and protracted cases, as they give rise to confidence, energy, and more enlarged views in practice. On such occasions, no rivalry or jealousy should be indulged; civility, justice, and all due respect should be exercised toward the physician who first attended; and as he may be presumed to be best acquainted with the patient and family, he should deliver all the medical directions as agreed upon. It should be the province, however, of the senior consulting physician to propose the necessary questions to the sick.

The consulting physician is never to ruin without the attending one, unless by the desire of the latter, or when, as in sudden emergency, he is not to be found. No discussion of the case should take place before the patient or his friends; and no prognostications should be delivered, which were not the result of previous deliberation and concurrence. Theoretical debates, indeed, should generally be avoided in consultation, as occasioning perplexity and loss of time; for there may be such diversity of opinion on speculative points, with perfect agreement on those modes of practice, which are founded not on hypothesis, but on experience and observation. Physicians in consultation, whatever may be their private sentiments or opinions of one another, should direct themselves of all partialities, and think of nothing but what will most effectually contribute to the relief of those under their care.

If a physician can not lay his hand to his heart and say, that his mind is perfectly open to conviction, from whatever quarter it may come, he should in honor decline the consultation.

All discussions and debates in consultation, are to be held secret and confidential.

Many advantages may arise from two consulting together, who are men of rank, and have mutual confidence in each other's honor. A remedy may seem to one, which did not to another, and a physician may want resolution or a confidence in his own opinion, to prescribe a powerful, but precarious remedy, in which, however, the life of his patient may depend; in this case, a concurrent opinion may fix his own. But when such mutual confidence is wanting, a consultation had better be declined, especially if there is reason to believe that sentiments delivered with openness are to be communicated abroad, or to the family concerned; and if, in consequence of this, either gentleman is to be made responsible for the event.

The strictest punctuality should be observed in consultation visits; and to avoid loss of time, it will be expedient for the physician, in every town or country, to establish a certain space of time, as an allowance for delay, after which the meeting might be considered as postponed for a new appointment. If a consulting physician should arrive after the attending physician has withdrawn, he should deliver his opinion in writing.

INFERENCES.

Medicine is a liberal profession; its practitioners are, in truth, to be men of education; and their expectation of business and employment should be founded on their degree of qualification, not on artifice and immorality. A certain undesirable species of assiduity and attention, therefore, in looking usually employed another, is to be considered as beneath the dignity of a regular practitioner; and as making a mere trade of a liberal profession; and all efficient institutions, in case of sickness in such families, even in the case of dispensary, representing the character of a physician as a gentleman. The modifying inquiries should be made concerning them, not hints given relative to their manner and treatment, not any selfish conduct pursued, that may directly or indirectly tend to weaken confidence in the physicians and surgeons who bear the name of them.

When a physician is called to a patient, who has been under the care of another gentleman of the faculty, before any examination of the case, he should ascertain, whether that gentleman had discontinued his case, and whether the patient consulted himself as under his care, in which case, he is not to assume the charge of the patient, nor give his advice, (except in instances of sudden attacks) without a regular consultation; and if such previously attending gentleman has been dismissed, or has voluntarily relinquished the patient, his practice should be treated with candour, and justified in far as prudence and good will permit. In the want of means in the primary treatment of the disorder, is an impairment of professional skill and knowledge.

It frequently happens that a physician, in accidental communications with the patients of others, or with their friends, may have their cases stated to him, as if direct a notice, or not be aware of his holding no promise to them. Under such circumstances, his observations should be delivered with the most delicate propriety and reserve. He should not interfere in the curative plan pursued; and should even recommend a steady adherence to them, if they appear to merit approbation.

INFERENCES OF ETHICS.

The inferences of physicians, when they act in regard to the public, generally have the controlling parties; but what is of more consequence, they discredit the profession, and expose the faculty itself to contempt and ridicule. Whenever such differences exist, as may affect the honour and dignity of the profession, and cannot immediately be terminated, or do not come under the character of violation of the special rules of the association, otherwise provided for, they should be referred to the institution of a sufficient number of members of the Society, according to the nature of the dispute; but neither the subject matter of such differences, nor the adjudication, should, if it can be avoided, be communicated to the public; as they may be personally injurious to the individual concerned, and our kindly fall in fact the general credit of the faculty.

DISSEMINATION OF QUICKNESS.

The use of quick medicines should be discouraged by the Society, as dangerous to the profession, injurious to health, and often destructive even of life. No physician or surgeon, therefore, shall dispense a secret nostrum, whether it be his

invention, or exclusive property; for if it is of real efficacy the concealment of it is inconsistent with beneficence and professional liberality; and, if mystery alone give it value and importance, such craft implies either disgraceful ignorance or fraudulent artifice.

CONDUCT FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE MEDICAL CHARACTER.

The *apud se corpis* is a principle of action founded on human nature, and, when duly regulated, is both rational and laudable. Every man who enters into a free society, engages, by tacit compact, not only to submit to the laws, but to promote the honor and interest of the association, so far as they are consistent with morality and the general good of mankind. A physician, therefore, should vigilantly guard against whatever may injure the general respectability of the profession, and should avoid all wanton and unbecoming representations of the faculty at large, all general charges against their selfishness or incapacity, or the indulgence of an affected or popular skepticism concerning the efficacy and utility of the healing art.

FEE.

General rules are adopted by the faculty in every town or county, relative to the pecuniary acknowledgments of their patients; and it should be deemed a point of honor to adhere to them; and every deviation from, or evasion of these rules, should be considered as meriting the indignation and contempt of the fraternity.

Costly services to the poor are by no means prohibited; the characteristic beneficence of the profession is inconsistent with sordid views and avaricious rapacity. The poor of every description should be the objects of our peculiar care. Dr. Baillie has said, to say they were his best patients, because God was their paymaster.

It is obvious, also, that an average fee, as suited to the general rank of patients, must be an inadequate compensation from the rich, (who often require attendance not absolutely necessary,) and yet too large to be expected from that class of citizens, who would feel a reluctance in calling for assistance, without making some decent and satisfactory remuneration.

SENIORITY.

A regular and academic education furnishes the only presumptive evidence of professional ability, and is so honorable and beneficial, that it gives a just claim to pre-eminence among physicians at large, in proportion to the degree in which it may be enjoyed and improved. Nevertheless, as industry and talents may furnish exceptions to this general rule, and this method may be liable to difficulties in the application, seniority, among practitioners of this State, should be determined by the period of public and acknowledged practice as a physician or surgeon in the same. This arrangement being clear and obvious, is adapted to remove all grounds of dispute; and it secures the regular continuance of the established order of precedence, which might otherwise be subject to troublesome interruptions by new settlers, perhaps not long stationary in the place.

CODE OF MEDICAL ETHICS.

OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION—ADOPTED 1947.

CHAPTER I.—Of the duties of physicians to their patients, and of the obligations of patients to their physicians.

ART. I.—Of the duties of physicians to their patients.

ART. II.—Of the obligations of patients to their physicians.

CHAPTER II.—Of the duties of physicians to each other, and to the profession at large.

ART. I.—Of the duties of physicians for the support of professional character.

ART. II.—Of the duties of physicians in regard to professional services to each other.

ART. III.—Of the duties of physicians in regard to various offices.

ART. IV.—Of the duties of physicians in consultation.

ART. V.—Of the duties of physicians in cases of interference with one another.

ART. VI.—Of the duties of physicians when differences arise between them.

ART. VII.—Of the duties of physicians in regard to pecuniary acknowledgment.

CHAPTER III.—Of the duties of the profession to the public, and of the obligations of the public to the profession.

ART. I.—Of the duties of the profession to the public.

ART. II.—Of the obligations of the public to physicians.

CHAPTER I.

OF THE DUTIES OF PHYSICIANS TO THEIR PATIENTS AND OF THE OBLIGATIONS OF PATIENTS TO THEIR PHYSICIANS.

ART. I.—*Duties of physicians to their patients.*

§ 1. A physician should not only be ever ready to obey the calls of the sick, but his mind ought also to be imbued with the greatness of his mission, and the responsibility he habitually incurs in its discharge. These obligations are the more deep and enduring, because there is no tribunal other than his own conscience, to adjudge penalties for carelessness or neglect. Physicians should, therefore, minister to the sick with due impressions of the importance of their office; reflecting that the ease, the health, and the lives of those committed to their charge, depend on their skill, attention and fidelity. They should study,

also, in their deportment, so to unite *modesty* with *firmness*, and *condescension* with *authority*, as to inspire the minds of their patients with gratitude, respect and confidence.

§ 2. Every case committed to the charge of a physician should be treated with attention, steadiness and humanity. Reasonable indulgence should be granted to the mental infirmity and caprices of the sick. Secrecy and delicacy, when required by peculiar circumstances, should be strictly observed; and the familiar and confidential intercourse to which physicians are admitted in their professional visits, should be used with discretion, and with the most scrupulous regard to fidelity and honor. The obligation of secrecy extends beyond the period of professional services;—none of the particulars of personal and domestic life, no infirmity of disposition, or flaw of character observed during professional attendance, should ever be divulged by him except when he is imperatively required to do so. The force and necessity of this obligation are indeed so great, that professional men have, under certain circumstances, been protected in their observance of secrecy, by courts of justice.

§ 3. Frequent visits to the sick are, in general, requisite, since they enable the physician to arrive at a more perfect knowledge of the disease,—to meet promptly every change which may occur, and also tend to preserve the confidence of the patient. But unnecessary visits are to be avoided, as they give useless anxiety to the patient, tend to diminish the authority of the physician, and render him liable to be suspected of interested motives.

§ 4. A physician should not be forward to make gloomy prognostications, because they *smear* of melancholy, by magnifying the importance of his services in the treatment or cure of the disease. But he should not fail, on proper occasions, to give to the friends of the patient timely notice of danger, when it really occurs; and even to the patient himself, if absolutely necessary. This office, however, is so peculiarly alarming when executed by him, that it ought to be declined whenever it can be assigned to any other person of sufficient judgment and delicacy. For, the physician should, by the tenacity of hope and comfort to the sick; that, by such cordials to the drooping spirit, he may smooth the bed of death, revive expiring life, and counteract the depressing influence of those calamities which often darken the tranquillity of the most resigned, in their last moments. The life of a sick person can be shortened not only by the *act*, but also by the *words* or the *manner* of a physician. It is, therefore, a sacred duty to guard himself carefully in this respect, and to avoid all things which have a tendency to disencourage the patient and to depress his spirits.

§ 5. A physician ought not to abandon a patient because the case is deemed incurable; for his attendance may continue to be highly useful to the patient, and comforting to the relatives around him, even in the last period of a fatal malady, by alleviating pain and other symptoms, and by soothing mental anguish. To decline attendance under such circumstances, would be violating in the most delinquent and mistaken liberality, that sacred duty, which is independent of, and far superior to all pecuniary consideration.

§ 6. Consultants should be summoned in difficult or protracted cases, as they give rise to confidence, energy, and more-extended views in practice.

§ 7. The opportunity which a physician not infrequently enjoys of promoting and strengthening the good resolutions of his patients, suffering under the consequences of vicious conduct, ought never to be neglected. His counsel, or even

demonstrated, will give satisfaction, not offense, if they be professed with politeness, and evince a genuine love of virtue, accompanied by a sincere interest in the welfare of the persons to whom they are addressed.

ART. II.—*Obligations of patients to their physicians*

§ 1. The members of the medical profession, upon whom are enjoined the performance of so many important and arduous duties toward the community, and who are required to make so many sacrifices of comfort, ease, and health, for the welfare of those who avail themselves of their services, certainly have a right to expect and require, that their patients should entertain a just sense of the duties which they owe to their medical attendants.

§ 2. The first duty of a patient is, to select as his medical adviser one who has received a regular professional education. In no trade or occupation, is wanted only on the skill of an untaught artist; and in medicine, confessedly the most difficult and intricate of the sciences, the world ought not to suppose that knowledge is intuitive.

§ 3. Patients should prefer a physician whose habits of life are regular, and who is not devoted to dissipation, pleasure, or to any pursuit incompatible with his professional obligations. A patient should, also, consult the care of himself and family, as much as possible, to one physician, for a medical man who has become acquainted with the peculiarities of constitution, habits, and predispositions, of those he attends, is most likely to be successful in his treatment, than one who does not possess that knowledge.

A patient who has thus selected his physician, should always apply for advice in what may appear to him trivial cases, for the most fatal results often supervene on the slightest accidents. It is of still more importance that he should apply for assistance in the forming stage of violent diseases; it is on a neglect of this precept that medicine owes much of the uncertainty and imperfection with which it has been reproached.

§ 4. Patients should faithfully and unreservedly communicate to their physician the supposed cause of their disease. This is the more important, as many diseases of a mental origin simulate those depending on external causes, and yet are only to be cured by ministering to the mind diseased. A patient should never be afraid of thus making his physician his friend and adviser; he should always bear in mind that a medical man is under the strongest obligations of secrecy. Even the female sex should never allow feelings of shame or shyness to prevent their disclosing the real symptoms and causes of complaints peculiar to them. However commendable a modest reserve may be in the common occurrences of life, its strict observance in medicine is often attended with the most serious consequences, and a patient may sink under a painful and protracted disease, which might have been readily prevented had freely information been given to the physician.

§ 5. A patient should never weary his physician with a tedious detail of events or matters not appertaining to his disease. Even as relates to his actual symptoms, he will convey much more real information by giving clear answers to interrogatories, than by the most minute account of his own framing. Neither should he divulge the details of his business nor the history of his family concerns.

§ 6. The obedience of a patient to the prescriptions of his physician should be prompt and implicit. He should never permit his own crude opinions as to their

stress, to influence his attention to them. A failure in one particular may render an otherwise judicious treatment dangerous, and even fatal. This remark is equally applicable to diet, drink, and exercise. As patients become convalescent they are very apt to suppose that the rules prescribed for them may be disregarded, and the consequence too often, is a relapse. Patients should never allow themselves to be persuaded to take any medicine whatever, that may be recommended to them by the self-constituted doctors and doctresses, who are so frequently met with, and who pretend to possess infallible remedies for the cure of every disease. However simple some of their prescriptions may appear to be, it often happens that they are productive of much mischief, and in all cases they are injurious, by contravening the plan of treatment adopted by the physician.

¶ 7. A patient should, if possible, avoid even the friendly visits of a physician who is not attending him,—and when he does receive them, he should never converse on the subject of his disease, as an observation may be made without any intention of interference, which may destroy his confidence in the course he is pursuing, and induce him to neglect the directions prescribed to him. A patient should never send for a consulting physician without the express consent of his own medical attendant. It is of great importance that physicians should act in concert; for, although their modes of treatment may be attended with equal success when employed singly, yet conjointly they are very likely to be productive of disastrous results.

¶ 8. When a patient wishes to dismiss his physician, justice and common courtesy require that he should declare his reasons for so doing.

¶ 9. Patients should always, when practicable, send for their physician in the morning, before his usual hour of going out; for, by being early aware of the visit he has to pay during the day, the physician is able to appropriate his time in such a manner as to prevent any interruption of engagements. Patients should also avoid calling on their medical adviser unnecessarily during the hours devoted to meals or sleep. They should always be in readiness to receive the visits of their physician, as the detention of a few minutes is often of serious inconvenience to him.

¶ 10. A patient should, after his recovery, entertain a just and valuing sense of the value of the services rendered him by his physician; for these are of such a character, that no mere pecuniary acknowledgment can repay or cancel them.

CHAPTER II

OF THE DUTIES OF PHYSICIANS TO EACH OTHER, AND TO THE PROFESSION AT LARGE.

ART. I.—*Duties for the support of professional character.*

¶ 1. Every individual, on entering the profession, as he becomes thereby entitled to all its privileges and immunities, incurs an obligation to exert his best abilities to maintain its dignity and honor, to exalt its standing, and to extend the bounds of its usefulness. He should therefore observe strictly, each law as are instituted for the

government of its members,—should avoid all recrimination and sarcastic remarks relative to the faculty; as a body; and while, by unswerving diligence, he resorts to every honorable means of enriching the science, he should entertain a due respect for his seniors, who have, by their labors, brought it to the elevated condition in which he finds it.

§ 2. There is no profession, from the members of which greater purity of character, and a higher standard of moral excellence are required, than the medical; and to attain such excellence, is a duty every physician owes alike to his profession, and to his patients. It is due to the latter, as without it he can not command their respect and confidence, and so both, because no scientific attainments can compensate for the want of sound moral principles. It is also incumbent upon the faculty to be temperate in all things, for the practice of physic requires the unobscured exercise of a clear and vigorous understanding; and, on emergencies for which no professional man should be unprepared, a steady hand, an acute eye, and an unclouded head may be essential to the well-being, and even to the life, of a fellow creature.

§ 3. It is derogatory to the dignity of the profession, to resort to public advertisements or private cards or handbills, inviting the attention of individuals afflicted with puerile diseases,—publicly offering advice and medicine to the poor gratis, or promising radical cures; or to publish cures, and operations in the daily prints or suffer such publications to be made;—to invite laymen to be present at operations,—to boast of cures and remedies,—to affix certificates of skill and success, or to perform any other similar acts. These are the ordinary practices of empirics, and are highly reprehensible in a regular physician.

§ 4. Equally derogatory to professional character is it, for a physician to hold a patent for any surgical instrument, or medicine; or to dispense a secret remedy, whether it be the composition or exclusive property of himself, or of others. For, if such nostrum be of real efficacy, any concealment regarding it is inconsistent with beneficence and professional liberality; and, if efficacy alone give it value and importance, such craft implies either disguised ignorance, or fraudulent artifice. It is also reprehensible for physicians to give certificates attesting the efficacy of patent or secret medicines, or in any way to promote the use of them.

ART. II.—*Professional services of physicians to each other.*

§ 1. All practitioners of medicine, their wives, and their children while under the parental care, are entitled to the gratuitous services of any one or more of the faculty residing near them, whose assistance may be desired. A physician afflicted with disease is usually an incompetent judge of his own case; and the natural anxiety and sollicitude which he experiences at the sickness of a wife, a child, or any one who by the ties of consanguinity is rendered peculiarly dear to him, tend to obscure his judgment, and produce hesitancy and irresolution in his practice. Under such circumstances, medical men are peculiarly dependent upon each other, and kind offices and professional aid should always be cheerfully and gratuitously afforded. Visits ought not, however, to be intruded officiously; as such unasked civility may give rise to embarrassment, or interfere with that choice, on which confidence depends. But, if a distant member of the faculty, whose circumstances are affluent, request attendance, and an honorarium be

offered, it should not be declined; for no pecuniary obligation ought to be imposed, which the party receiving it would wish not to incur.

ART. III.—Of the duties of physicians in respects emergency-offers.

§ 1. The affairs of life, the pursuit of health, and the various accidents and contingencies to which a medical man is peculiarly exposed, sometimes require him temporarily to withdraw from his duties to his patients, and to request some of his professional brethren to officiate for him. Compliance with this request is an act of courtesy, which should always be performed with the utmost consideration for the interest and character of the family physician, and when exercised for a short period, all the pecuniary obligations for such service should be awarded to him. But if a member of the profession neglect his business in quest of pleasure and amusement, he can not be considered as entitled to the advantages of the frequent and long-continued exercise of this fraternal courtesy, without assenting to the physician who officiates the fees arising from the discharge of his professional duties.

In accidental and important surgical cases, which give rise to unusual fatigue, anxiety and responsibility, it is just that the fees accruing therefrom should be awarded to the physician who officiates.

ART. IV.—Of the duties of physicians in regard to consultations.

§ 1. A regular medical education furnishes the only presumption evidence of professional abilities and acquirements, and ought to be the only acknowledged right of an individual to the exercise and honors of his profession. Nevertheless, as in consultations the good of the patient is the sole object in view, and this is often dependent on personal confidence, no intelligent regular practitioner, who has a license to practice from some medical board of known and acknowledged respectability, recognized by this association, and who is in good moral and professional standing in the place in which he resides, should be factiously excluded from fellowship, or be absolutely refused in consultation when it is requested by the patient. But no one can be considered as a regular practitioner, or a fit associate in consultation, whose practice is based on an exclusive dogma, to the rejection of the accumulated experience of the profession, and of the aids actually furnished by anatomy, physiology, pathology, and organic chemistry.

§ 2. In consultations no rivalry or jealousy should be indulged; candor, equity, and all due respect should be exercised toward the physician having charge of the case.

§ 3. In consultations the attending physician should be the first to propose the necessary questions to the sick; after which the consulting physician should have the opportunity to make such further inquiries of the patient as may be necessary to satisfy him of the true character of the case. Both physicians should then retire to a private place for deliberation; and the one find it attendance should communicate the directions agreed upon to the patient or his friends, as well as any opinions which it may be thought proper to express. But no statement or discussion of it should take place before the patient or his friends, except in the presence of all the faculty attending, and by their common consent; and no opinions or propositions should be delivered, which are not the result of previous deliberation and concurrence.

§ 4. In consultations, the physician in attendance should deliver his opinion first, and when there are several consulting, they should deliver their opinions in the order in which they have been called in. No decision, however, should restrain the attending physician from making such variations in the mode of treatment, as any subsequent unexpected change in the character of the case may demand. But such variation and the reasons for it ought to be carefully detailed at the next meeting in consultation. The same privilege belongs also to the consulting physician if he is sent for in an emergency, when the regular attendant is out of the way, and similar explanations must be made by him at the next consultation.

§ 5. The utmost impartiality should be observed in the vote of physicians when they are to hold consultation together, and this is generally practicable, for society has been considerate enough to allow the plea of a professional engagement to take precedence of all others, and so to be an ample reason for the relinquishment of any present occupation. But as professional engagements may sometimes interfere, and delay one of the parties, the physician who first arrives should wait for his associate a reasonable period, after which the consultation should be considered as postponed to a new appointment. If it be the attending physician who is present, he will of course see the patient and prescribe; but if it be the consulting one, he should retire, except in case of emergency, or when he has been called from a considerable distance, in which latter case he may examine the patient, and give his opinion in writing and under seal, to be delivered to his associate.

§ 6. In consultations, theoretical discussions should be avoided, as increasing perplexity and loss of time. For there may be much diversity of opinion concerning speculative points, with perfect agreement in those modes of practice which are founded, not on hypothesis, but on experience and observation.

§ 7. All discussions in consultation should be held as secret and confidential. Neither by words nor manner should any of the parties in a consultation assert or insinuate, that any part of the treatment pursued did not receive his assent. The responsibility must be equally divided between the medical attendants,—they must equally share the credit of success as well as the blame of failure.

§ 8. Should an irreconcilable diversity of opinion occur when several physicians are called upon to consult together, the opinion of the majority should be considered as decisive; but if the members be equal on each side, then the decision should rest with the attending physician. It may, moreover, sometimes happen, that two physicians cannot agree in their views of the nature of a case, and the treatment to be pursued. This is a circumstance much to be deplored, and should always be avoided, if possible, by mutual concessions, as far as they can be justified by a conscientious regard for the dictates of judgment. But in the event of its occurrence, a third physician should, if practicable, be called to act as umpire, and if circumstances prevent the adoption of this course, it must be left to the patient to select the physician in whom he is most willing to confide. But as every physician relies upon the rectitude of his judgment, he should, when left in the minority, politely and cautiously retire from any further deliberation in the consultation, or participation in the management of the case.

§ 9. As circumstances sometimes occur to render a special consultation desirable, when the continued attendance of two physicians might be objectionable to the patient, the number of the faculty whose assistance is required in such cases,

should solemnly guard against all future undesired attendance. As such consultations require an extraordinary portion both of time and attention, at least a double honorarium may be reasonably expected.

§ 10. A physician who is called upon to consult, should observe the most honorable and scrupulous regard for the character and standing of the possessor of attendance: the practice of the latter, if necessary, should be justified as far as it can be, consistently with a conscientious regard for truth, and no hint or insinuation should be thrown out, which could impede the confidence reposed in him, or affect his reputation. The consulting physician should also carefully refrain from any of those extraordinary attentions or assiduities, which are too often practiced by the physician for the base purpose of gaining applause, or ingratiating themselves into the favor of families and individuals.

ART. V.—Duties of physicians in case of interference.

§ 1. Medicine is a liberal profession, and those admitted into its ranks should found their expectations of practice upon the extent of their qualifications, not on ingenuity or artifice.

§ 2. A physician, in his intercourse with a patient under the care of another practitioner, should observe the strictest caution and reserve. No meddling inquiries should be made; no dissingenuous hints given relative to the nature and treatment of his disorder; nor any course of conduct pursued that may directly or indirectly tend to diminish the trust reposed in the physician employed.

§ 3. The same circumspection and reserve should be observed, when, from motives of business or friendship, a physician is prompted to visit an individual who is under the direction of another possessor. Indeed, such visits should be avoided, except under peculiar circumstances, and when they are made, no particular inquiries should be instituted relative to the nature of the disease, or the remedies employed, but the topics of conversation should be as foreign to the case as circumstances will admit.

§ 4. A physician ought not to take charge of, or prescribe for a patient who has recently been under the care of another member of the faculty in the same illness, except in cases of sudden emergency, or in consultation with the physician previously in attendance, or when the latter has relinquished the case or been regularly notified that his services are no longer desired. Under such circumstances an unjust and illiberal insinuation should be thrown out in relation to the conduct or practice previously pursued, which should be justified as far as reason, and regard for truth and probity will permit; for it often happens, that patients become dissatisfied when they do not experience immediate relief, and, as many diseases are inherently protracted, the want of success, in the first stage of treatment, affords no evidence of a lack of professional knowledge and skill.

§ 5. When a physician is called to an urgent case, because the family attendant is not at hand, he ought, unless his assistance in consultation be desired, to resign the care of the patient to the latter immediately on his arrival.

§ 6. It often happens, in cases of sudden illness, or of violent accidents and injuries, owing to the alarm and anxiety of friends, that a number of physicians are simultaneously sent for. Under these circumstances courtesy should assign the patient to the first who arrives, who should select from those present, any additional assistance that he may deem necessary. In all such cases, however,

the practitioner who officiates, should resign the family physician, if there be one, to be called, and, unless his further attendance be requested, should resign the case to the latter on his arrival.

§ 7. When a physician is called to the patient of another practitioner, in consequence of the sickness or absence of the latter, he ought, on the return or recovery of the regular attendant, and with the consent of the patient, to surrender the case.

§ 8. A physician, when visiting a sick person in the country, may be desired to see a neighboring patient who is under the direction of another physician, in consequence of some sudden change or aggravation of symptoms. The conduct to be pursued on such an occasion is to give advice adapted to present circumstances; to interfere no farther than is absolutely necessary with the general plan of treatment; to assume no farther direction, unless it be expressly desired; and, in this last case, to request an immediate consultation with the practitioner previously employed.

§ 9. A wealthy physician should not give advice gratis to the affluent; because his doing so is an injury to his professional brethren. The effort of a physician can never be supported as an exclusively benevolent one; and it is trifling, in some degree, the common funds for its support, when lives are disposed with, which might justly be claimed.

§ 10. When a physician, who has been engaged to attend a case of midwifery is absent, and another is sent for, if delivery is accomplished during the attendance of the latter, he is entitled to the fee, but should resign the patient to the practitioner first engaged.

ART. VI.—Of differences between physicians.

§ 1. Diversity of opinion, and opposition of interest, may, in the medical, as in other professions, sometimes occasion controversy and even contention. Whenever such cases unfortunately occur, and cannot be immediately terminated, they should be referred to the arbitration of a sufficient number of physicians, or a court of law.

As jealousy never must be maintained by physicians toward the public, in regard to professional matters, and as there exist numerous points in medical ethics and etiquette through which the feelings of medical men may be painfully wounded in their intercourse with each other, and which can not be understood or appreciated by general society, either the subject matter of such differences and the adjudication of the arbitrators should be made public, as publicity in a case of this nature may be personally injurious to the individuals concerned, and can hardly fail to bring discredit on the faculty.

ART. VII.—Of pecuniary acknowledgments.

§ 1. Some general rules should be adopted by the faculty, in every town or district, relative to pecuniary acknowledgments from their patients; and it should be desired a point of honor in others to these rules with as much uniformity as varying circumstances will admit.

CHAPTER III.

OF THE DUTIES OF THE PROFESSION TO THE PEOPLE, AND OF THE OBLIGATIONS OF THE PEOPLE TO THE PROFESSION.

ART. I.—*Duties of the profession to the public.*

§ 1. As good citizens, it is the duty of physicians to be ever vigilant for the welfare of the community, and to bear their part in sustaining its institutions and laws; they should also be ever ready to give counsel to the public in relation to matters especially appertaining to their profession, as on subjects of medical police, public hygiene, and legal medicine. It is their province to enlighten the public in regard to quarantine regulations,—the location, arrangement, and dietetics of hospitals, asylums, schools, prisons, and similar institutions,—in relation to the medical police of houses, as drainage, ventilation, &c.,—and in regard to measures for the prevention of epidemic and contagious diseases; and when pestilence prevails, it is their duty to face the danger, and to continue their labors for the alleviation of the suffering, even at the jeopardy of their own lives.

§ 2. Medical men should also be always ready, when called on by the legally constituted authorities, to enlighten citizens' inquiries and courts of justice, on subjects strictly medical,—such as involve questions relating to sanity, legitimacy, murder by poison or other violent means, and in regard to the various other subjects embraced in the science of Medical Jurisprudence. But in these cases, and especially where they are required to make a post-mortem examination, it is just, in consequence of the time, labor and skill required, and the responsibility and risk they incur, that the public should award them a proper remuneration.

§ 3. There is no profession, by the members of which, extraordinary services are more liberally dispensed, than the medical, but justice requires that some limits should be placed to the performance of such good offices. Poverty, professional indebtedness, and certain public duties referred to in section 4 of this chapter, should always be recognized as presenting valid claims for gratuitous services; but neither institutions endowed by the public or by rich individuals, societies for mutual benefit, for the insurance of lives or for analogous purposes, nor any profession or occupation, can be admitted to possess such privilege. Nor can it be justly expected of physicians to furnish certificates of inability to serve on juries, to perform militia duty, or to testify to the state of health of persons wishing to insure their lives, obtain pensions, or the like, without a pecuniary acknowledgment. But in individuals in indigent circumstances, such professional services should always be cheerfully and freely accorded.

§ 4. It is the duty of physicians, who are frequent witnesses of the injuries committed by quackery, and the injury to health and even destruction of life caused by the use of quack medicines, to enlighten the public on these subjects, to expose the injuries incurred by the unwary from the devices and pretensions of crafty empirics and impostors. Physicians ought to use all the influence which they may possess, as professors in Colleges of Pharmacy, and by exercising their opinion in regard to the shops to which their prescriptions shall be sent, to discourage druggists and apothecaries from vending quack or secret medicines, or from being in any way engaged in their manufacture and sale.

ART. II.—*Obligations of the public to physicians.*

(1.) The benefits accruing to the public, directly and indirectly, from the science and practical business of the profession, are so numerous and important, that physicians are justly entitled to the warm consideration and respect from the community. The public ought likewise to entertain a just appreciation of medical qualifications,—to make a proper discrimination between true science and the straggling of ignorance and imposture,—to afford every encouragement and facility for the acquisition of medical education,—and no longer to allow the masses to look to chance for security of treating knowledge from physicians, under liability to heavy penalties, and of seeking their remedies by punishment for resorting to the only means of obtaining it.

Biographical Sketch of Archibald Welch, M. D.

BY A. W. FARROW, M. D.

[Read before the "Hartford Medical Society," and published in the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal by request of the members.]

DR. ARCHIBALD WELCH was the youngest son of the late Rev. Moses Cook Welch, D. D., and was born in Mansfield, Windham county, Ct., March 13, 1794. He was educated under the watchful eye of his father. During his younger years he attended the common district school; but he was instructed in the languages and higher English branches, by his father himself.

In the autumn of 1813, he entered the office of the late Joseph Palmer, M. D., of Ashford, in this State, a physician and surgeon of considerable celebrity, and enjoying an extensive practice in his own and neighboring parishes. He remained with Dr. Palmer as a student of medicine during the next three years, except the time spent in attending two courses of lectures at the Medical Institution of Yale College. Receiving a license, he commenced the practice of medicine in his native town at the early age of twenty-two years. And notwithstanding the usual prejudice against employing a young man in such responsible duties as *devolved* on a physician, he soon received the patronage and confidence of the community to a liberal extent.

In December, 1822, he accepted an invitation from the late S. B. Woodward, M. D., then of Westfield, Conn., to occupy the place he was about to leave; and in the same season Dr. Welch removed to that town. His reputation as a well-educated and successful physician, his gentlemanly demeanor and pleasing address, at once introduced him into the best families of the place, and won for him the esteem and confidence of the people in his new field.

In 1830, by the recommendation of the Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society, he received the honorary degree of M. D. from Yale College.

After sixteen years' residence in Wethersfield, he became convinced, as he has himself stated, "that he could no longer endure the hardships of the practice of medicine in the country." He therefore decided, though with great reluctance, that it was his duty to exchange that post for one which would not make such drafts upon his strength. Before leaving, he was strongly solicited by his numerous friends to abandon his purpose and continue with them. A communication was received by him, signed by more than fifty families of the place, urging him to remain.

His reason for selecting Hartford as the place of his future practice, I will state in his own words. "I did not prefer Hartford because I considered it deficient in number or ability of medical men. But being somewhat intimately acquainted with them and their social and honorable qualities, I was desirous to avail myself of the benefit and pleasure of their society." He therefore removed to Hartford in December, 1845. Of his success in his profession, his standing in the estimation of his medical brethren, and his appreciation by the public in this vicinity, it is not necessary for me to speak at length. With his professional career, you, gentlemen, are all familiar. I will, therefore, only say that when Dr. Welch came to our city he was preceded by a well-earned reputation, which continually increased with his acquaintance with our citizens. For many years he had enjoyed the high esteem and respect of the members of the profession, and his fidelity and skill were rewarded by the confidence and liberal patronage of the community.

In practice, he did not study to distinguish himself in any particular branch more than another, whether of medicine or of surgery, but ever held himself ready for whatever he might be called to treat. Dr. Welch was a close observer. He studied the character of disease at the bedside. In prescribing for the sick, he was deliberate and careful, ordinarily using mild means, and trusting much to the powers of nature for the removal of disease; yet he was prompt in adopting active measures in those cases where they were required. He was exact as to doses, and particular and definite in his directions. His intercourse with the sick was distinguished by kindly interest, gentleness of manner, and unusual self-possession. He was familiar but distant in his language, listening with patient attention to the history of their complaints. In investigating disease he was thorough, at the same time treating his patients with great delicacy and kindness. In his examination of patients, he made them feel that he gave himself up wholly for the time to them.

His relations with the members of the profession were almost without exception the most pleasant and happy. He had their confidence, and was often called by them in consultation. His treatment of them was marked by fairness and a high sense of honor. Dr. Welch loved the society of his medical brethren, and his social intercourse with them was characterized by fraternal sympathy and regard. He was strongly attached to his old associates, men of his own age, with whom he had borne the common responsibilities and cares of medical practice. He also felt a peculiar interest in the young men of the profession. His manner with them was very friendly and conversational, and he took pleasure in imparting to them the fruits of his experience. In this way he won the warm regard of the young physicians with whom he came in contact. Few men were more generally acquainted with the physicians of our State, or had more personal friends among them.

Dr. W. placed a high estimate upon the benefits accruing to the profession, from medical societies and associations, and sought by all means in his power to contribute to their support and efficiency. He took a deep interest in the welfare of the State Medical Society, and made his arrangements to attend its annual conventions, allowing no ordinary business to deter him from being present on these occasions.

He was very hospitable, and enjoyed the company of his friends at his own fireside, and around his own table. Very many of these will always remember the cheerful welcome they received at his door, and the gratification they imparted as well as enjoyed at his home.

His disposition was naturally quick; but by self-culture had been subdued to almost unvarying evenness and sweetness. He had an earnest belief in whatever opinion he held, and in general quite as earnest conviction of the erroneous character of opposite views. It is not surprising, therefore, that such a mind should make less account than is sometimes necessary, of the force of constitutional or educational bias in the formation of intellectual views. It was his disposition to judge of the correctness of a proposition by its moral bearings. Hence questions of propriety, or policy, or expediency, had to pass a double scrutiny before they were approved by him. It is not strange, therefore, that he should pronounce severe judgments upon those who seemed to disregard the moral bearings of a question, in accepting the cold deductions of logic.

The principles of Christianity lay deep in the ground-work of his

character, and found expression in his daily life and habits. They were recognized in his business transactions no less than in his family gatherings.

Dr. Welch, as has been already intimated, had not a very robust constitution. He had several severe attacks of disease, and was on two or three occasions greatly prostrated with fever. During the earlier periods of his life he suffered much from dyspepsia, but as he advanced in years he in a great measure overcame this difficulty, and his health in all respects was improved. It is believed that at no period of his life did he enjoy such uninterrupted health as during his last years, or that he was ever able to perform more labor than at this period. At the time of his death his form was erect, his step elastic, all his faculties were vigorous, and very few persons of his years had a fairer prospect of prolonged life. Dr. Welch died May 6th, 1853, in the sixtieth year of his age. You are all familiar with the circumstances attending his death. He spent the last days of his life in attending the American Medical Association in New York city.

Biographical Sketch of Dr. Richard Warner.

RICHARD WARNER, M. D., was born in Hadlyme, Conn., October 19th, 1794. He was prepared for college under the instruction of the Rev. Mr. Vaile, of his native place; entered Yale College in 1813; and graduated, with a good reputation for scholarship, in 1817. Among his classmates and intimate friends, were Nathan B. Smith, M. D., late of Bathurst; Chief-Justice Joel Jones, of Philadelphia; Bishop Delaney of Western New York; Hon. Charles J. McCurdy, of this State, &c. After leaving college, Mr. Warner taught school for about two years, studying medicine meantime with his brother, Dr. Andrew F. Warner, of Hadham. In 1821, he received his degree of M. D., at Yale Medical College, and engaged in practice in his native place and the adjoining town of Chester, but in May, 1823, settled in East Hadham, where he remained until the commencement of the year 1831, when he removed to Cromwell, and practiced there until his death, September 29th, 1853. On the

death of his brother in Haddam in 1825, he received an invitation, signed by over one hundred citizens of that place, to remove there; and in 1829, another from Lyme, also very numerously signed, but declined both.

In Dr. Warner's younger days, he was very full of life and spirits, not a hard student, learning more from observation than close application to books,—but his perception being acute and his memory retentive, he learned well what he knew. In the classics, he was a fair scholar, but the natural sciences, botany, geology, mineralogy, and conchology, were his favorite pursuits, and he devoted much attention to them. He had rather a speculative turn of mind, and every new theory received more or less of his attention. He was an independent thinker, and fearlessly acted out his convictions. He rather wanted the worldly policy, which so materially favors success and leads to popularity. He was a great friend to all the moral reforms of the day, and took an active part in favoring them. A good citizen, and guided by an enlightened public spirit, he gave his time and efforts to the advancement of the place in which he lived. As a physician, Dr. Warner practiced moderately and acceptably. His remedies were generally potent and efficient; as he had no very great confidence in the unaided *vis medicatrix nature*. Quacks and quackery he abhorred with a perfect and honest abhorrence, and never stooped to any of the empirical arts and practices by which our profession is too often disgraced. Like many others of his class, Dr. W. gave much of his time and attention to the poor.

Dr. Warner was an honest, upright man, and a sincere Christian. Living he professed the faith openly, and dying it was his support and consolation.

In conclusion, Dr. Warner was a man of strong character, and as that very account had warm friends and bitter enemies. His disease was a chronic inflammation of the intestinal canal; about which however no apprehensions seemed to have been entertained, until the last moment. The doctor, though feeling unwell, had attended to his business until 5 P. M. of the 28th—suffered much in the night, with pain and vomiting. The writer saw him the next noon, in consultation with his nephew, Dr. Gilbert, of Portland, and found him rapidly failing, with cold extremities and almost imperceptible pulse. He died about 1 P. M., and the autopsy revealed extensive disease of the mucous membrane of the duodenum and small intestines, with softening and perforation.

Dr. Warner repeatedly filled offices of trust and honor in the town where he lived, and in the medical societies to which he belonged; was often Fellow of the Middlesex County Society—at one time its President; a Dissertator at one of the annual State Medical Conventions, and at the time of his death, President of the State Medical Society.

W. B. C.

AN ESSAY

40

SOME DISEASES OF THE CERVIX UTERI.

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Medical Society:—

Among the primary and main objects of such medical associations as ours, are doubtless the collection of well-ascertained facts, and the accumulation of the individual experience of their members. It is in this way that Medical Science can be most certainly advanced, and the influence of our profession most sensibly perceived, as well as its usefulness most widely extended. The appointment of Dissertators and Essayists, while it adds to the interest of our Conventions, is but one method of carrying out their objects. The opinions and observations of one and another on various subjects are thus drawn out and made available to the rest, and the Society, while it reaps the benefit of the practice, assumes no responsibility for what it elicits. Keeping these ideas in view, I have selected as my theme some of the most common diseases of the Uterus, being convinced that there are none in the whole range of medicine more important, and until recently, more overlooked, and perhaps even mistreated.

That I shall throw any new light upon the subject, I have not the presumption to suppose; but it is sometimes quite as useful to bring afresh before the mind, well-established and important facts, as to originate new theories, however brilliant and fanciful. If then, what I have to say shall induce any of my brethren to pay closer attention to the large and interesting class of uterine maladies—to examine them more critically, and study them more carefully—the half-hour that you will expend in listening to my remarks will not have been unprofitably employed. Without further excuses, and no other apology for reiterating what many of those before me know much better than myself, I enter at once upon the consideration of

my subject—which, it may be well, however, to premise, I design to treat, if not in a desultory, at least in no strictly methodical manner.

The diseases of the organ which plays so essential a part in the female economy, are, up to the age of puberty, extremely rare, and therefore little worthy, at this time, of an extended notice. That the Uterus sometimes becomes diseased before the eruption of its menses, can not be doubted, but it is no part of my design to say anything upon this point. It is to the organ during its active existence, so to speak, that I wish more particularly to direct your attention.

We have reached, then, that interesting period when a change takes place upon the female system—when the young girl becomes conscious of new functions, and of unaccustomed sensations—when her physical, moral and intellectual development acquires increased vigor and activity—when, in short, she ceases to be a child, and begins to be a woman. It is at this period, that there is frequently laid the foundation of diseases, which cling to the unfortunate patient through life, make that life miserable, and finally, perhaps mercifully shorten its duration. It is at this period that congestions of the organ not seldom occur, and which, according to the treatment received, may occasion but brief and trivial inconvenience, or may eventuate in protracted and almost hopeless suffering. If this be so, it is certainly of the highest importance that the existence of these diseases should be early and correctly ascertained, and the proper treatment judiciously and without loss of time, put in requisition.

How then are we to know when there is danger of a serious affection? When the young patient suffers severely at her menstrual periods; when she has violent pains in the lower part of the back and abdomen, extending along the groins and shooting down the inside of the thighs; when she has nausea and vomiting, attended also by head-ache, shivering, and other signs of constitutional disturbance; when there is a sensation of weight, and of burning low down in the pelvis; with a scanty menstrual appearance, which is followed perhaps by a leucorrhœal discharge, we may be sure that the uterus is the seat of a congestion or engorgement which should not be neglected.

Were I writing a systematic treatise upon Female Diseases, I should perhaps adopt a regular and rigorous classification; should arrange each affection under the heads of Causes, Diagnosis, Symptoms, Prognosis, and Treatment, and should perhaps in that way avoid some repetition. Fancying however that a little diffuseness

will not be out of place even upon such an occasion as the present, I have preferred to deviate somewhat from the beaten track, and to sacrifice system to the desire of avoiding tediousness. Nevertheless, it might be well to set forth with some minuteness the causes of these complaints in young females, could they always be clearly ascertained. In some cases, doubtless, congestion of the uterus in girls, arises from exposure to wet and cold; from inadequate clothing, and particularly thin shoes; from dancing, walking, or unordinate exercise during a catamenial period; and sometimes, I am sorry to add, from improper and injurious habits or practices; but in many cases it is impossible to trace the difficulty to any of the foregoing causes—all we can learn is, that such a disease exists and calls urgently for relief: how that relief is to be afforded, I shall consider farther on.

But if the disease mentioned is not unfrequently met with in young and unmarried females, it is infinitely more common among the married. In fact it is rare to find a woman who has borne two or three children, entirely free from some uterine complaint. This may seem a sweeping assertion, but I am sure that the experience of many of my brethren in this Society will bear me out in the remark. Many a woman suffers from some form of uterine disease, who yet does not ask professional advice therefor. In very many instances, the inconvenience is so slight, and the symptoms so moderate, that she thinks it hardly worth while to complain of it, much less to apply for treatment; and often, even when she does seek advice, it is only by dint of persevering and close cross-questioning, that the existence of any deviation from uterine health can be discovered by the physician. The patient may possibly acknowledge "a weakness," but nothing more. The natural and becoming modesty of the sex, too, frequently interposes an insuperable barrier to the inquiry. It may be objected, that when a disease is apparently so trivial, it should hardly, in fairness, be termed a disease; but disease of a serious character frequently exists when its presence is entirely unsuspected, owing to the absence of any alarming symptoms; and moreover, I am inclined to believe that as a perfectly healthy person is said not to be conscious that he has any stomach, so a woman who is quite free from disorder of the uterus, should not know that she has such an organ, except when in the menstrual or its impregnated state, the knowledge is forced upon her. At all events, there can be no doubt that diseased conditions of the womb are exceedingly prevalent among females, especially married females, in every rank and condition of society. Of these,

the affections most commonly met with are congestions of the uterus, and granulations and ulcerations of the cervix, and to these therefore in particular I shall direct your attention.

The learned and experienced Prof. Meigs, of Philadelphia, states in his Report to the American Medical Association, presented at its last meeting, (vol. vi., pp. 386,) that "an ulceration of the womb is among the rarest of diseases;" but that it does occur with sufficient frequency to make it an object of special attention, the observation of others, and the testimony of my own eyes induce me to believe. Writers on the subject of the congestion of the uterus assert, that in young and unmarried persons it is the body, while in married women it is the neck of the organ which most frequently suffers from disease. My own experience confirms this statement; and indeed the causes of the variation must be obvious, mechanical injury of various kinds, as in coition, parturition, &c., being readily chargeable with the origin of the difficulty in the latter class. Let us then sketch briefly a case of this kind, as it usually presents itself to the notice of the physician.

He is called to visit a patient, whom he finds perhaps sitting in a rocking-chair with a pillow supporting her back; or it may be, she is reclining upon a sofa or lounge, with her feet drawn up, looking somewhat pale and languid. In answer to his inquiries, he learns that the lady has been out of health and growing weak for some time; that she can not make as much exertion as formerly, is more easily fatigued, and experiences considerable pain and soreness "in her bowels," after a walk, or being upon her feet for any length of time; that early in the morning she feels pretty well, but that an hour or two after rising, her back, abdomen, and upper part of her limbs ache, or become painful; that she has a pain in her side (generally the right) under the ribs; is troubled with palpitation of the heart; has a sensation of "weight" in the pelvis; a frequent disposition to urinate, with a burning or smarting pain when she does so; that she is subject to a "weakness," or discharge from the vagina; has a gnawing sensation at the stomach; that in short she feels tired and miserable, without knowing exactly how or why. Pursuing his investigation, he learns that she has had one or two miscarriages, or a severe labor perhaps, some months before, and that she "got up" soon afterward, and sat up a good while, or feeling pretty well, went about the house before the uterus had been reduced to its natural size and condition. If the physician is sufficiently intimate in the family, or perhaps resolute in his effort to make him-

self acquainted with all the symptoms, and pushes his inquiries, he is informed that his patient suffers extremely from marital intercourse, and that she has consequently a *decided disinclination* thereto. He learns, moreover, that she has too frequent returns, and too profuse a discharge of her monthly haemorrhage—that she hardly gets over one turn, before another begins, and that in the intervals, the white-discharge is almost as abundant as the red; that she experiences as much *penetration* and debility, that she is obliged to wear a “*linc*” or “*supporter*,” and thinks “she can’t possibly get along without it.”

If the patient is really aware where her difficulty is, she may be willing to admit that she has some “*falling of the womb*,” or perhaps a great “*weakness*,” but she does not dream of, or will not acknowledge anything more. Now, without intending to assert that there is never any such thing as prolapsus, or falling of the womb unattended by, or not originating from congestion of the uterus, I believe such cases to be rare, and look upon prolapsus rather as the result of previous disease (of either the uterus or vagina) than as a primary and original difficulty. That there are cases of displacement, or of version, occurring independently of structural lesion, I do not doubt, but even these are, sooner or later, apt to be complicated with congestion. However, I am anticipating a little upon this point.

I have mentioned above a number of symptoms or rational signs, as belonging to the most common uterine affections, but it will not do to rest satisfied in every case with the evidence which these alone can furnish. In general the diagnosis can not be considered certain without a resort to further and more direct examination, and we can scarcely institute a rational and satisfactory course of treatment, until by means of the finger, and sometimes even the eye, we have become thoroughly informed of the nature and extent of the disease which we propose to treat.

Should, then, there exist any doubts on this subject, and no good reasons for omitting such an exploration, (and we can fancy but few cases where the omission would be even proper,) we proceed to examine the condition of the uterus digitally. I generally prefer to examine such a patient in a standing position, so we are thus enabled more readily to estimate the exact position of the uterus, the degree and kind of displacement, the size and weight of the organ, and its relations with the surrounding parts. Of course a previous familiarity with the “*feel*” of the womb in a natural and healthy state, is

necessary to the proper appreciation of any departure from these conditions. When the finger is well educated to such explorations, however, it readily detects any deviations from a normal state, and in many cases determines in what this deviation consists. By this means we discover whether there is any enlargement of the organ; any swelling of its neck; any puffy or doughy feeling about the os tincæ—whether this opening is larger or more patent than usual, or different from its natural shape—whether there is much sensibility about the cervix (this part, when healthy, possessing but little.) In short, we learn as much as possible respecting the actually existing condition of things. Still, gentlemen, we may not have thus learned everything that is possible, or perhaps desirable, and what shall we then do? A few years since, Mr. President, and the touch was the only method in use for the diagnosis of uterine diseases, and many a curable affection of the cervix was doubtless overlooked, and allowed to go on unchecked, until it terminated in hopeless and incurable lesion, merely for want of a more perfect and accurate means of ascertaining, not less than thorough and efficient method of treating this extensive and troublesome class of affections. But medicine, in common with the other arts and sciences, has been making progress. At the present day, therefore, few would venture to undertake the treatment of a severe case of uterine disease, or even a moderately severe case in a married woman, without first making a complete and satisfactory examination with the eye as well as the finger. Yes, gentleness of the Medical Society, notwithstanding the speculum, or metroscope, as it has been recently and somewhat facetiously termed, has encountered so much opposition and oppositionists, it is to that simple instrument that we are indebted for such improvements as have, within a few years past, been added to the diagnosis and treatment of uterine diseases.

And, considering the reasonableness, and even the necessity of this mode of exploration, it is really surprising that its use has not long since become more general. For what can be more natural or more proper, than the wish to see a disease which we are called upon to treat, provided that such vision is possible? Objections are sometimes made to the use of the speculum on the score of indelicacy, and pathetic remonstrances against the employment of the uterine tube are uttered, on the score of the violation of female modesty. I admit that it is a hard necessity which compels a woman to submit to the requisite examination: but really, gentlemen, I can not find in this fact any sufficient reason for altogether refusing to resort to instru-

mental means, when the requisite information can not be obtained in any other way; and moreover, it appears to me that there is scarcely more indecency in introducing into the vagina a smooth, nerveless tube, (the patient's person being carefully protected from exposure the while,) than in exploring this sensitive canal with the finger, be the operation performed never so gently. And there can be but little violation of modesty in bringing into view the neck of an uterus affected with disease, any more than in exposing to sight a bared nipple—an inflamed mamma—a tumor in the groin—or a disease in other parts of the body usually covered. It is unfortunate that these parts and organs should become affected; but when they are suffering under the attack of a disease which is or may be dangerous to comfort if not to health, we should hardly allow any merely squeamish or fastidious scruples to interfere with our duties, as physicians, to such patients. Public opinion, which is often the measure of propriety, has undergone a great change upon this subject within a few years. Some seventeen or eighteen years ago, when I was an assistant physician at the Bellevue Hospital, New York, there were constantly in the wards attached to this institution, large numbers of that unfortunate class of females, who furnish with inmates the houses of ill fame in that city. Many of these miserable creatures, when suffering under syphilitic affections, were accustomed, of their own accord, to go before the police magistrates and procure their own commitment to the penitentiary as vagrants, for the sole purpose of obtaining that medical treatment which they could not avail themselves of at their own abodes. In all these cases, the speculum was used as a matter of course, and none of the physicians connected with that institution pretended to treat a woman for any venereal or mercurial affection, without subjecting her, as often as was deemed necessary, to an examination with the speculum. It was in that way and at that time I first became acquainted with the value of this instrument in the diagnosis and treatment of uterine complaints; and from that time I have continued to employ it where practicable and requisite, extending its application beyond the limits of the specific cases mentioned; and I frankly confess that I should be much at a loss, and even unwilling to undertake the medication of many of the ordinary "Female Diseases," without having recourse to the speculum, and availing myself of the light which it alone is able to throw upon these otherwise obscure and almost always tedious and troublesome affections.

I do not wish to be understood as recommending the inevitable

and indiscriminate employment of the speculum in all cases of uterine disease. In the young and unmarried female I would refrain from its use whenever a sufficiently satisfactory diagnosis could be made out without it; or when the patient did not seem to be in actual danger, or suffering acutely, and when the prospect of relief from such treatment as could be instituted without its assistance, was in any degree encouraging. And I trust that I would pay as much regard to the natural and becoming scruples of a young and modest female, as any of my brethren. Still, when all other and usual means had failed, and the patient was growing worse, or even not improving, it would be an omission of duty, to say the least of it, not to avail ourselves of the light afforded by the speculum, and its valuable assistance in the treatment of certain diseases.

In this connection, permit me again to refer you to the report of Professor Meigs, before quoted. In treating of the objections urged against the use of the speculum, and in reference to the alleged abuse of the instrument, and the practice of "neuroscopic exploration," he thus remarks: "We must not repudiate, and by wholesale reprobation condemn and annul a good method of cure, merely because incompetent or wicked persons may abuse it to their own gain. To do so, would be to murder and punish the sick and miserable for faults of our brotherhood."

And again, "Even if it be true that some abuses, disgraceful to medicine, do exist, we are persuaded that such discreditable examples must be very rare among a class so generally acknowledged for wisdom, virtue and politeness, as the great body of the United States physicians. Wherefore, the committee do not feel themselves called upon to discomfite and reprobate the prudent and necessary employment of the modern methods and instruments, lavished to improve the means both of diagnosis and surgical treatment of diseases of the cervix uteri; conceiving that this is a matter to be left to the conscience and judgment of their brethren, whenever the occasion may arise."

It may perhaps be thought that I have devoted too much time and attention to the subject of the speculum, and the objections urged against it; but there are those in our ranks who try to create an unreasonable prejudice against the use of the instrument, not only in the mind of the profession, but in that of the public also—who stigmatize the practice of ocular inspection as "degrading" and absurd; and who would perhaps characterize almost every proposition for an instrumental examination, as an "offensive professional intra-

sion." In this matter, as in almost everything, the mean or middle course is right; and while on the one hand we should avoid, when possible, any undue or unnecessary instrumental assistance, we should, on the other, beware of incurring the charge of neglect in consequence of an over-zeal or over-simulated delicacy. Thus much by way of parenthesis.

To resume my description of the hypothetical case upon which I was suggested. We have examined our patient by the touch: we have found the uterus lower down than natural—its cervix either lying back upon the rectum, or tilted up under the pubic arch, feeling swollen, puffy, and evidently engorged with blood, and giving to the finger a peculiar velvety sensation; the os *truncus* more dilated than usual and seeming also a little rugged or uneven, and as the finger moves around and touches upon various points, the patient shudders somewhat, and gives perhaps a little start, or even a suppressed cry as if in sudden pain. The whole neck of the organ feels enlarged, and the body, or such portion of it as we can reach, also appears swollen, and heavier than usual. The os, when withdrawn from the passage, is found to be covered with a viscid, tenacious, yellowish mucus, often mixed with purulent matter, and sometimes bloody. Here are manifestly decided symptoms of disease, and we pursue the investigation. I say nothing about an explanation by the rectum, as I believe it is very seldom necessary, always very disagreeable, and it does not, except in occasional cases, furnish any new or additional information. But the specular examination does; and the patient, therefore, lying on her back, with her hips near the edge of a bed or couch, placed opposite a window; her feet resting on a couple of low chairs or benches; her whole person covered with a sheet, so arranged as to avoid all exposure, we anoint the speculum well with oil, and separating the labia with the fingers of the left hand, gently introduce the instrument, by means of the right, into the vagina, directing its distal extremity toward the neck of the uterus, the exact situation of which we have previously ascertained by the digital examination.

The selection and use of the proper instrument require some knowledge and tact, which every one can readily acquire for himself. Of course, specula of different sizes and kinds will be required in different cases. For the most part, I find the metallic expandible article, known as Charrière's Speculum, and the cylindrical glass tube, plated and coated with a preparation of gum elastic, sufficient for all ordinary purposes. The instruments are also made of ivory,

of German silver, and steel or iron japanned. But to return again from this digression. As the speculum advances, it pushes before it the vaginal walls into folds, some one of which might possibly be mistaken by an inexperienced person for the neck of the uterus—a mistake, however, easily avoided by a little care and attention. When the cervix is at length brought into view, engaged in the extremity of the tube, we gently cleanse it of the mucus and other secretions which cover it, by means of a dossel of soft lint, or something similar, fixed upon a stick or pair of forceps, and then we are enabled to determine the nature, character, and extent of the disease with which this portion is affected. We discern, too, the peculiar shade of color existing at the time, and are often much misled by this very particular in making up an opinion of the case.

In by far the larger number of cases, usually coming under the physician's observation, the cervix is found swollen and congested, of a deep red color variegated with patches of red points or granulations resembling the surface of a raspberry, and hence termed by French writers *inflammation granuleuse*. Sometimes these patches are whitish, and not raised much above the level of the mucous surface, but generally they are red, and a little blood frequently exudes from them when touched by the lint used in cleansing away the secretions of the part. These little patches frequently cover a considerable portion of the cervix, though generally they are confined to one or the other of the lips of the os *interius*, which is commonly swollen and gaping; and they doubtless often extend up into the canal of the cervix, thus accounting for the obstinacy of some of these cases when due care is not taken to extend the proper treatment sufficiently. At the same time, the explorer will often notice quite a collection of mucous-gland matter about the upper end of his tube, and not seldom will see something similar, or instead, a glairy, tenacious slime issuing from the opening of the os. I should not omit to mention that the upper portions of the vagina will also be found of a deeper red than usual, and frequently hot and tender.

Such are the appearances usually met with in the more common cases of uterine disease; and such is the group of symptoms and signs which constitute the affections known as uterine congestion and granulation. The difficulty is evidently one of a local character, to be reached by local remedies, and not within the control of general or constitutional treatment. What these local remedies are, I shall now proceed briefly to state.

In the first place, when simple congestion in an acute form, unattended by granulation or ulceration, exists, a few leeches (from four to six) applied upon the cervix, will often be of very great service, in diminishing the congestion and relieving the pain which generally attends this form of disease. The leeches are applied by means of a glass tube or speculum. They generally take hold readily, fill quickly and bleed freely, and the flow, if desirable, may be promoted by injections of warm water. The bites cause little or no pain, and heal readily without leaving any perceptible hardness or cicatrix. Some physicians, instead of leeching, prefer to scarify the cervix with a broad double-edged knife fixed in a long handle. Either plan will answer, and may be used at discretion.

When, however, the run does not *come under notice* until after the acute stage has passed, and the neck of the uterus has become granulated or ulcerated, local depletion will not so generally be required; but instead, the application of some form of caustic becomes necessary.

There are three species of this article in general use for this purpose, to which the actual cautery, as a fourth, may be added. In the great majority of cases, the solid nitrate of silver will be sufficient. It should be freely applied upon all the cervix, and even pushed up into the canal if the *os interius* is patulous and unobscured. Its application is not generally painful nor severe. The operator will observe that the little patches or spots before alluded to become, under its influence, covered with a brown dense and white pellicle than the rest of the cervix. The coagulation, which should be made lightly and rapidly, being effected, the patient should be directed to lie quiet for a short time, and use if convenient an injection of simple water, merely to cleanse the passage of the urethra which would otherwise stain her dress.

The operation is very apt to be followed by a bloody discharge for a day or two; at all events, the catarrhal mucopurulent secretion is much increased for a short period subsequently. In four or five days the pellicle or coating formed by the nitrate is thrown off, and a fresh, red, and slightly granulated surface is left, which should again be cauterized; and this operation is to be repeated every few days, (the period may vary from five to eight,) until the engorgement and attendant granulation or ulceration are removed.

In young females affected with congestion of the uterus, where we have made out the diagnosis by the touch alone, and wish to avoid if possible the use of the speculum even in the treatment, a supposi-

tory composed of the nitrate of silver, with the addition of some anodyne, as for instance, stramonium or morphia, may be introduced into the *os uteri* by means of the suppository tube or pill syringe, as it is sometimes termed. Left there, the suppository soon dissolves and produces a considerable effect upon the disease, and being repeated every two or three days, or even daily if requisite, it may serve sometimes as a substitute for actual and direct cauterization in the usual manner.*

During this treatment the vaginal discharges will be found to diminish, the feeling of weight, pain in the back and sides gradually to lessen, the general health, appetite, digestion, &c., to improve, and in short, the patient will find herself growing sensibly stronger and better. I need hardly add, that all this while, the patient should be kept quiet; should abstain from much exercise, long walks, or fatigue of any kind; and in particular should be exceedingly moderate, if not absolutely continent, as regards sexual intercourse. It will be well for her to use daily injections of simple cold water, or weak astringent, and also mucilaginous washes. The bowels should be kept regular, if necessary, by gentle aperient medicine; constipation being especially to be guarded against and deprecated in these cases.

Prof. Meigs, in his report before quoted, gives very minute and particular directions with regard to the use of the nitrate of silver, which persons unaccustomed to its use might do well to look over and attend to. With all deference, however, to the learned professor, his distinctions and directions seem to me unnecessarily nice and specific.

But there are cases which the nitrate of silver will not cure. When the congestion is excessive, and there is ulceration also to any considerable extent, the lunar caustic acts slowly if at all; and under those circumstances I have been accustomed to employ the acid nitrate of mercury as a caustic. Much greater caution is requisite in using this article than in the nitrate of silver, as it is much more active and potent. The operator should take care to apply the speculum closely to the neck of the uterus, and then touch the diseased parts lightly and rapidly with a little pledget of lint fastened upon the end of a stick, and moistened with the acid. It is not a bad plan, before withdrawing the speculum to throw in a syringe-full of cold water to dilute the acid and prevent its action upon the vaginal

* For this suggestion I am indebted to Prof. Baker of the New York Medical College.

membrane. The effect of the acid nitrate continues for some ten days to a fortnight, and its application should not be repeated at shorter periods than those mentioned, as the little pellicle or slough caused by its contact does not entirely separate before that time; there is then left a raw and more smooth surface, to which the nitrate of silver may be beneficially applied.

I should not omit to mention, as a curious fact, that I have known salivation in one instance to result from a single application of the acid nitrate to the cervix. The patient was a feeble and delicate woman, who had quite an extensive ulcer on the cervix. She had some time previously been salivated by the internal use of mercury, and hence probably her extreme susceptibility to its influence.

The third species of caustic which I have been in the habit of using, is the *potassa cres. conc.*, which, as usually met with, is in the form of crayons or cylinders. It is much more manageable than the *potassa fusa*, and not so violent in its action. It is particularly applicable to those cases of chronic and hard engorgement where the cervix is actually indurated, and threatens to become even schirrhous. In such circumstances, the application of the *potassa* is eminently beneficial, and under its influence the engorgement and induration rapidly melt away.

In the use of this, as well as the preceding article, care should be taken to moderate and circumscribe its action, which does not confine itself merely to the surface upon which it is imposed, but is apt to extend to some depth if not restrained. For this purpose, it is well to have a mixture of vinegar and water at hand; and after the caustic has been carefully applied, its extension can be arrested by throwing in a little of the mixture by means of a syringe, or what is more convenient by carrying a doab of lint dipped in the solution, to the parts cauterized. A tolerably thick pellicle is after a while thrown off from the cervix, which may again be touched with the *potassa*, or the nitrate of silver, as may in the discretion of the physician seem most appropriate.

With regard to the actual cautery, I frankly confess that I have had no personal experience, and therefore am unable to furnish any useful or satisfactory information respecting its employment. Those who have used it, however, speak highly of its benefits in certain obstinate and malignant forms of disease. M. Adert de Lamballe, a French physician, extols it highly.

The treatment of diseases of the uterine neck by the local method above described, should be continued until the diseased surface re-

gains its normal appearance and condition, and this generally requires from six or eight weeks to three months. Occasionally, a case of unusual extent and severity, or of long standing, will not be cured within the period mentioned. The physician should therefore neither be discouraged himself, nor allow his patient to become so; but should steadily persevere in his efforts, as nearly all these cases, though they be tedious and obstinate, are curable, and will finally yield to proper treatment. The patient's mind should be as much as possible diverted from her disease, and great efforts should be made to inspire her with hope and confidence, not only because the cure is thus materially assisted, but because in these affections, the nervous system is peculiarly apt to become depressed, and the mind to be desponding.

I said a little way back, that the patient should be kept quiet. I do not mean by this to advise absolute rest, for I am disposed to believe that after the acute stage of these diseases has passed, moderate exercise not unduly protracted, rather tends to assist and to expedite the cure. Some patients can ride during the entire existence of the affection without pain or inconvenience, and such should be encouraged to do so.

Walking almost invariably causes pain either in the back or uterine region, but I am nevertheless in the habit of advising and encouraging my patients to take short walks, even though they suffer a little temporary aggravation of the pain in consequence. I believe that the uterine nerves become involved in these cases, or that a neuralgic condition of the parts frequently exists, and that in this fact is often due the pain complained of after walking and at other times, though at the same time I am aware that the congestion and the coexistent displacement of the organ are generally sufficient to account satisfactorily for the pain. Still, as before said, when the difficulty has become chronic, I think that the benefit which the general system derives from air and exercise, more than counterbalances any local trouble which may by possibility result from indulgence therein.

Frequent sponging of the hips and loins with cold water, and vaginal injections of the same are calculated to assist the other measures which have been recommended; and while speaking of injections, I may remark that iodo-collins and anodyne vaginal injections (when applied in the proper way) are frequently of service in relieving the pain and the irritation sometimes attendant upon all disorders of the uterine neck. Astringent solutions also, such as the sulphate and

acridities of zinc, the sugar of lead, tannin, alum, &c., will also contribute to the comfort, and frequently promote the cure of the patient.

I shall add little or nothing farther respecting the general or constitutional treatment of these affections. Every judicious physician will, of course, see that his patient is attended to in this respect, and will advise such regimen and medication, as may seem requisite to put her system in the best possible condition. As a general remark, I will suggest, that I have found very little active general medication necessary in my uterine cases. (Occasionally, even in some form, or perhaps a combination of this article with quinine, creosote or iodine, has proved useful in an advanced stage of disease; but in general I have depended more upon the topical treatment, and such purely hygienic measures as the case seemed to require, than upon any regular or systematic course of medicine.

Lest it should be supposed that I am ignorant of, or have undervalued the treatment recommended by Duparcque in his treatise on "Engorgements of the Uterus," I may state that I have repeatedly made trial of his plan of antiseptical irrigation, but in spite of all efforts to prevent it, the caustic would produce its specific paralytic, and occasion thereby so much irritation and inconvenience, that I thought it best upon the whole to abandon its use. I have also prescribed the powder of woods, in case of engorgement attended with hemorrhage, but as the article generally offended my patients' stomachs, or troubled their heads considerably, without producing a counterbalancing beneficial effect upon the uterus, I have hardly come to depend upon it for any purpose whatever. Still I don't not that cases are met with, in which both of these methods will be found useful and practicable.

I have heretofore been treating of diseases of the *terry* uterus, when the organ was in an unimpregnated state. I wish now to direct your attention to the same diseases affecting the uterus in its gravid condition. My brethren of the Society will pardon me for expressing the opinion, that pregnant women receive too little consideration and treatment at the hands of our profession. We are, perhaps, too apt to consider the ailments to which such women are subject, as merely "symptoms"—as something which is a natural and necessary consequence of gravidity, not requiring, and not to be benefited by any medical treatment. And herein I think we labor under an erroneous belief; and are well persuaded that a "masterly inactivity" in many of these cases, does injustice not only to our suffering patients, but to our own professional skill and remedial means. I am well

satisfied, that the excessive menses—with which some females suffer from the very instant almost of conception—the uterine pain—the vesical and vaginal irritations—the leucorrhœa—the ten thousand little difficulties with which a poor woman “in the family way” is afflicted, are not only symptoms, but often morbid symptoms; and that when applied to for their relief or mitigation, we should not content ourselves with prescribing some simple *placenta* to soothe the patient’s mind, and keep up her spirits merely, but should take such measures for her effeminal relief, as we would adopt under other and ordinary circumstances.

Furthermore, I have very little doubt that nine-tenths, or at all events, a very large proportion of the abortions and miscarriages which take place, are due to actual disease of the cervix uteri; and that many of these “accidents” might be prevented by timely and proper applications to the part diseased. Nor is this a matter merely of opinion: its truth rests upon the observations of numerous careful and skillful practitioners; and I can draw upon my own limited experience for facts which prove the truth not only of the main proposition, but of its adjunct also; for I am quite sure that I have in several instances, by appropriate topical treatment, prevented the occurrence of this much to be deplored misfortune.

But again: to refer you to one particular “symptom.” Every physician knows how common and how troublesome, in pregnant women, is the discharge termed “the whites” or leucorrhœa; and probably every one of any experience in these matters, has been plagued and baffled by the obstinacy of the disease. Injections, of whatever kind, are mere child’s play, and the disease frequently goes on during the whole period of gestation, to the very great annoyance and discomfort of the woman, and sometimes of—her husband. Now why should this be so? I undertake to say, that in the great majority of instances, this difficulty depends upon a diseased, generally a granulated state of the cervix: and that by a few touches of the nitrate of silver pencil; or if that fails, of the acid nitrate of mercury, the otherwise obstinate disease can be readily and effectually controlled; and the woman thus rendered equally comfortable and grateful.*

But perhaps it may be objected by those who entertain a pious horror of the spectrum, that its use, always improper, as they say,

* Of course every prudent physician would exercise care in the employment of the acid nitrate in these cases; and when there was great susceptibility to mercurial influence, or any other good reason existed for avoiding its use, would content himself with the more slow but sure application of the lunar caustic.

is especially so in pregnancy; that it is dangerous, and likely to cause the very result which its use is affirmed to avert. To this I reply, that its use in careful hands, is no more dangerous in pregnancy than at any other time; that in fact its employment is not half so likely to do mischief as the existing disease; its introduction is certainly easier; and in the earlier months, the womb lying low in the cavity of the pelvis, its neck can be more readily reached and brought into view, and the local medication on that point effected with more facility.

I have adduced as an illustration from among the "Diseases of Pregnancy," merely the leukorrhœa, but as before remarked, I am satisfied that the sickness at stomach also often depends upon disease of the cervix, whose nervous sympathies and influences are very extensive. And if this theory be correct, it follows that the sickness aforesaid may be more readily and effectually checked by applying nitrate of silver, or the acid nitrate, to the cervix *uteri*, than by filling the stomach with any quantity of soda, bicarbonate, charcoal or lemon juice.

I do not intend to enlarge much upon this or any other topic, as I wish to avoid the charge of tediousness; but I beg those of my brethren, to whom these may be novel ideas, to look into the matter, and consult authors of more experience and reputation than I can lay claim to; and furthermore, to test the correctness of my opinions by their own clinical observation: I doubt not that their practice thereafter will be somewhat different from its previous character.

I do not believe, however, that there is danger of my saying too much on the main topic of this essay, when its importance is considered, and I am therefore tempted to add a little to what has already been presented.

That diseases of the uterus constitute a large and interesting portion of every physician's cases, at least his chronic cases; that they are, or have been, as a general thing, perplexing and obstinate to the practitioner, not less than troublesome and distressing to his patients, few indeed will be disposed to deny. That their influence upon female health, upon the constitutions of children, upon the happiness of families, upon the harmony and stability of the domestic relations, is often very direct and very efficient, may be easily demonstrated. The connection of diseases of the uterus in its non-gravid state, with the condition of the same organ when impregnated, is also a very close and important one. The effects experienced, moreover, by other organs and parts of the system, through the all-powerful

medium of sympathy, or by actual extension from surface to surface, or by the way of the circulation, should also be taken into consideration: and in view of these facts, for they are facts, we can scarcely devote too much attention, or attach too great importance to these sterile affections. For thirty years or more, is every woman liable to their attack, and if at the outset, or at an early period of her married life, she becomes thus affected, and is neglected or inefficiently treated, she may feel the consequences throughout the remainder of her days, and drag on a miserable existence, embittered by sufferings and annoyances, which in very many instances, might easily have been prevented or relieved.

Let us again sketch a case, many a counterpart of which is daily met with. Suppose a young girl to be so imprudent as to dance a whole evening during the menstrual period, and then leaving a heated room with her skin freely perspiring, her feet not well protected, and otherwise inadequately clothed, she "takes cold," and is so unfortunate as to become the subject of an attack of uterine congestion. Let the disease be now unapprehended, or inefficiently treated, and in a little while she begins to suffer at her monthly periods, which, in addition, become irregular as to time, and as to quantity of secretion, until at length she feels herself affected with permanent dysmenorrhœa. After awhile her general health begins to suffer: her stomach, heart, head, and in short, her whole system, especially the nervous part of it, participating in the trouble, and finding exercise difficult and painful and very fatiguing, unless she be a person of uncommon perseverance and spirit, she is in time confined to the house, and not infrequently her room, and perhaps even her couch; and she takes her place upon the list of confirmed invalids, obtaining, it may be, but little sympathy or clarity from her acquaintances and friends, because she "does not look very sick," even when suffering acutely.

But suppose the difficulty does not reach quite this extent; and the female in question, by dint of prolonged rest, and by virtue of a good constitution and such general treatment as she may have received, escapes the fate of confinement within doors, and is able to keep about nearly as usual without much suffering, except for a few days in each month: and suppose, too, that in course of time, induced by her own wishes, or advised to such a step by her physician, (as has often been done without doubt,) she enters into the marriage state—what then ensues? Beyond all question, a speedy aggravation or renewal of her old symptoms, and an increase of the dormant

congestion. And the explanation of the occurrence is too obvious to need more than a simple statement of the fact: for, by the mechanical injury to which the neck of the organ is now subjected, and the intense and repeated physiological excitement consequent upon the new relations into which the subject has entered, a hyperæmic condition of the cervix cannot but be rapidly established, soon resulting in active congestion, inflammation and granulation, with all their attendant symptoms and sufferings.

If, as may possibly happen, impregnation should take place, the difficulties just mentioned are increased, and then commence the usual symptoms of pain in the back, pelvis and limbs, a burning sensation in the vagina and urethra, with frequent and painful micturitions, and a sense of weight and bearing down within the pelvis.

Not unfrequently a farred tongue, quick pulse, headache, and occasional shivering fits, denote the existence of some constitutional disturbance: and so, perhaps, matters go on for some ten or twelve weeks, when after a little longer walk than usual, or some extra exertion, or it may be some strong mental excitement, or even without any obvious reason whatever, a flow makes its appearance, continues and increases, soon followed by uterine pains, and the unfortunate patient miscarries in spite of all efforts to prevent it. This occurrence has pretty thoroughly reduced her strength, and enfeebled her whole system; but after a while she gets up again, slowly recovers and resumes her usual occupations, though her face is more pallid, and her air more languid than before; she is more easily overcome by slight exertions, has a constant pain in her side, an occasional hemorrhage, and more or less leucorrhœa. If she has any constitutional disposition to phthisis, it is not unlikely that a short, dry, hacking cough will soon begin to annoy her: and no very long period will elapse before the too well known and unmistakable signs of tubercular disease manifest themselves. The end but inevitable result I need hardly mention.

But if our patient has no hereditary taint, and escapes the fate just referred to, she may nevertheless be doomed to troubles and sufferings not less to be dreaded than the more rapidly fatal malady which, under similar circumstances in other cases, often results. In due time, possibly, she again conceives, and is again subjected to the dangers and sufferings of a miscarriage: and thus she goes on, year after year, dragging out a weary existence, which doubtless she would be glad to exchange for the repose of the grave.

Perhaps I may have exaggerated, or too highly colored my sketch;

and yet I doubt not that the experience of many of the members of this society will recognize its faithfulness and confirm its truth: and even if facts among the whole list of cases that come under the physician's notice, there should be found but a bare fraction to answer the foregoing description, I shall still have discharged my duty to that small number, and have done them a great service by calling your attention to the cause of and remedy for their miserable condition, miserable if neglected or mistreated.

There is one fact in this connection which deserves particular mention. All physicians who have paid much attention to uterine diseases, and especially to the treatment of these by the modern method, can not but have noticed that many of their patients previously, or for a long time before, *scilicet*, have, soon after undergoing the topical treatment recommended in this essay, conceived and gone safely through the period of gestation. Now if this proves anything, it shows the beneficial influence of local remedies upon the diseased structure and organ. The uterus, when much affected by disease, is not very apt to discharge its physiological duties with regularity and certainty; and when, after a long recurrence of these duties, it again takes on and performs its proper functions, I think the fact furnishes tolerably strong evidence that a change for the better has been effected: and if we are ever right in arguing "*post hoc, ergo propter hoc*," certainly this immediate connection between cause and effect manifested in the treatment of diseases of the cervix by direct local applications, pretty thoroughly establishes their present power and permanent utility.

I should not have satisfactorily performed the duty which I assigned myself in the selection of my subject, were I to omit a caution, especially needed in the management of uterine diseases; and that is, not to consider them cured, when only partially relieved. Perhaps in no class of cases is there a stronger tendency to relapse than in those of which I have been speaking. The physician should therefore be quite sure that every vestige of disease is removed, before he pronounces his patient well; and even then he should charge her particularly to use great care in avoiding undue exertions, and all other causes which he knows may be likely to induce a return of the complaint. The locality of the disease, and the peculiar nature of the treatment, are such that both physician and patient are anxious to get through with it as soon as possible; and doubtless, in some instances the practitioner may fail to effect a radical cure for want of sufficient perseverance in the course commenced. I allude to this, because it

is not unlikely to occur, and possibly an objection to the method of treating these diseases might be taken from the fact that it had sometimes failed in its object, when in truth the reason for its failure was to be looked for in its premature discontinuance.

It was no part of my design to say much with regard to the displacements of the uterus, although, entertaining as I do the idea that displacement seldom occurs unassociated with disease of the organ, I might with propriety have devoted some *moments* to its consideration. I am quite satisfied that many of the symptoms attributed to *prolapsus uteri*—such for instance as pain in the back, a bearing down sensation, vaginal discharge, irritable bladder, &c.—depend frequently more upon congestion of the organ than upon a simple change of its position. How few women indeed are there, who have borne children, in whom the womb remains in its natural situation! But farther, it is very often the fact that in cases where the symptoms referred to are most urgent and distressing, the degree of displacement is very slight and almost unappreciable; while on the other hand, as I have more than once seen, a woman shall have so great a degree of *prolapsus*, that the neck of the womb fairly protrudes between the labia, and yet she is able to take long walks, and even perform such actual labor with but very little trouble or suffering.

In the *American Journal of Medical Science* for July, 1838, Dr. Peckles, of Virginia, has contributed a very well written and ingenious paper "on the displacements of the non-gravid uterus," in which, while he admits that engorgement or congestion is almost always found in cases of malposition of the uterus, and is in fact the pathological condition of the organ when displaced, he yet endeavors to show that the displacement is generally the antecedent, and the engorgement the consequent; and adduces no arguments to support his views, among other things, that "the increase of weight in the engorged womb is not of itself sufficient to effect the result." And also, that "the engorgement may greatly disappear, without being followed by a corresponding return of the organ to its natural position."

I am perfectly willing to allow their due weight to both these arguments, and yet I am not convinced by them nor any others which I have met with, that the views of the writer above quoted are in the main correct. That congestion sometimes, I might even say often, follows, and is the direct consequence of malposition of the uterus, I do not doubt; but from my own observation, and from reasoning on the subject, I am disposed to believe that the displace-

ment and the congestion are frequently simultaneous, or at least that both are owing to the same antecedent cause. However, I do not intend to discuss the subject: my reason for entering upon it at all at the present time, is to caution my younger brethren especially against adopting a too exclusive and one-sided view of the matter, in these cases, inasmuch as the treatment of them would be very much influenced and modified by the theory that one should embrace respecting them. Those who should adopt Dr. P's views, would attach very great importance to the mechanical treatment of the difficulty, considering the topical applications which I have recommended as of secondary consequence: while those who should think as I do, that displacements of the uterus, separated from their pathological connections of engorgement, granulation, &c., occasion comparatively but little inconvenience and suffering, would spare their patients, whenever possible, the disagreeable resort to a pessary: and first having relieved them of actual disease by proper topical applications, would trust to cold water douches and baths, &c., for the cure of the displacement, and only advise the employment of a permanent mechanical appliance, when they had failed in every other way to afford the desired relief.

I shall not enter into further detail in regard to this point, and am not very strenuous in urging that my particular views should be generally adopted. I do not assume to be regarded as authority upon this or any other part of the subject. As I stated at the outset, my object was to call attention to a very common class of diseases, in my opinion, too much neglected, or too inefficiently treated, rather than to attempt the feat of originating any new theory, or of disproving the correctness of any already in vogue.

In the foregoing paper I have merely given the results of my own observation, occasionally supported and confirmed by such authorities as would be generally recognized by the profession. Having, then, no pet theory to establish or maintain, and no rival hypothesis to demolish, my aim has been simply truth: and sound views of pathology and clear ideas of treatment, are what in common with the profession I labor for and desire.

Quackery and charlatanry are rampant in all departments of the healing art, and in none more so than in that branch which pertains to female diseases. Every "experienced" old woman, and traveling lecturer, and table-sipping clairvoyant, knows as much, and generally much more than the regular doctor. The surest way to put down empiricism and stop the spread of its mischief, is for the medi-

ral profession to attain as much certainty and clearness as possible in their diagnosis of diseases, and consequently harmony and uniformity in their practice.

Differences of opinion as to the mode of treatment will rarely occur in any great extent, when physicians see diseases in the same pathological light; but when obliged to guess at the nature and character of a difficulty, or to depend solely upon symptoms, we shall be very apt frequently to arrive at widely different conclusions both as to the disease and its remedies. The employment of instrumental assistance, therefore, in ascertaining the character and determining the nature of internal diseases, can not but be considered a great step in advance, inasmuch as it adds to the quality of certainty, in need of which the structure of our medical science somewhat stands. Let no one then thoughtlessly object to, or willfully retire this assistance in the management of uterine affections. A man of ordinary tact and right feelings, will so contrive to avail himself of its advantages, that while on the one hand he obtains the information which he so much needs and desires, on the other he will avoid all unnecessary violence to his patient's delicacy, be also never so refined and sensitive. "To the pure, all things are pure," should be as much an axiom in medicine as in morals. But perhaps I have said enough upon this point, and my paper is extending to an inconvenient length. I will therefore hasten to a conclusion.

If the statements I have presented, and the reasons I have adduced, in the foregoing somewhat discursive essay, shall induce any of my professional brethren to give closer attention to the large class of uterine diseases which come under the notice of every physician actively engaged in general practice, and if the mode of treatment which I have described and advocated shall be instrumental in relieving the sufferings and restoring the health of even a few of that numerous and interesting class of patients, my duty to this Society and to my profession will have been in some measure discharged, and the time and labor which, by your appointment for this session, has been required at my hands, will not have been expended in vain.

W. B. CASEY.

MINNEAPOLIS, May, 1864.

NOTE.

The publication of the proceedings has been delayed by waiting the preparation of an expected obituary notice, the large amount of miscellaneous matter ordered by the Convention, as well as the great pressure of other matter in the hands of the publisher.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SIXTY-THIRD ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

Conn. Medical Society,

MAY, 1855,

WITH A LIST OF MEMBERS,

AND THE

DISSERTATION OF STEPHEN G. HUBBARD, M. D.

Printed at

THE PRESS OF CASE, TIFFANY AND COMPANY,

NEW-YORK.

Officers of the Society.

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BENJAMIN H. CATLIN, M. D., VICE-PRESIDENT.
GEORGE O. SUMNER, M. D., TREASURER.
JOSIAH G. BECKWITH, M. D., SECRETARY.

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Committee of Examination.

WILLIAM H. COGSWELL, M. D., *ex-officio*.
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JOHN D. FORD, M. D.
WILLIAM W. WELCH, M. D.
REYNOLD WEBB, M. D.
BENJAMIN H. CATLIN, M. D.

Committee to examine Physicians to the Retreat for the Insane.

P. L. DICKINSON, M. D.
P. A. JEWETT, M. D.
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JONATHAN KNIGHT, M. D.
ISAAC G. PORTER, M. D.

Committee to nominate Professors in the Medical Institution of Yale College.

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WILLIAM B. CASEY, M. D.
DAVID HARRISON, M. D.
E. K. HUNT, M. D.
E. M. FOWLER, M. D.

PROCEEDINGS.

THE Annual Convention of the President and Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society, was held in the Court House, in the city of Norwich, May 10th and 11th, 1855.

The Convention was called to order by the President, when the certificates of the elections of Fellows were presented by the Secretary, and referred to a committee consisting of Drs. Fowler, Thurston, and Lewis, who reported the following list of

F E L L O W S.

HARTFORD COUNTY.

R. N. Cummings, M.D.
G. B. Griggs, M.D.
W. C. Williams, M.D.
*S. Rockwell, M.D.
E. K. Hart, M.D.

NEW LONDON COUNTY.

Jos. D. Ford, M.D.
H. Thurston, M.D.
Almon Fuller, M.D.
Jas. C. Bolles, M.D.
Jas. G. Porter, M.D.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY.

J. Sherwood, M.D.
Jas. A. McLean, M.D.
*H. N. Benson, M.D.
*H. L. W. Barrett, M.D.
*Jas. Baldwin, M.D.

MIDDLETOWN COUNTY.

*D. Williams, M.D.
*W. B. Cady, M.D.
*S. W. Turner, M.D.

NEW HAVEN COUNTY.

A. Knight, M.D.
N. B. Jew, M.D.
P. H. Rockwell, M.D.
Jost Canfield, M.D.
R. F. Williams, M.D.

WINDHAM COUNTY.

J. H. Swanson, M.D.
*H. W. Gough, M.D.
D. W. C. Lathrop, M.D.
Wm. A. Lewis, M.D.
*Daniel A. Hovey, M.D.

ATTEMPTVILLE COUNTY.

M. Potts, M.D.
H. W. Bush, M.D.
R. M. Foster, M.D.
O. Brown, M.D.
C. B. Middle, M.D.

TOLLAND COUNTY.

Orest Wood, M.D.
C. H. Prosen, M.D.
H. S. Dink, M.D.

It was voted to postpone the election of officers for the present, and proceed to the usual regular business of the Convention.

A committee, consisting of Drs. Hunt, Ford, and Wood, were appointed to bring forward the unfinished business of last year.

Dr. Peters offered the following resolutions:

Resolved, That in the death of JOHNSON C. HATCH, M. D., of Kent, the medical profession have lost a worthy and useful member, and the Society a firm and distinguished supporter.

Resolved, That ——— be a committee to prepare a suitable biographical sketch of the deceased, and present it to the Convention.

Resolutions passed unanimously, and Dr. Peters was appointed to prepare a biographical sketch of the deceased.

Dr. Hunt presented the resolutions from Hartford County in reference to the House confined in the Connecticut State Prison—the Sanitary condition of Hartford County, and urging the adoption of similar measures in all the counties of the State—the Biography of the late GEORGE SNEYDEN, M. D.—the necessity of a thorough Pharmaceutical education for Druggists, to enable them to discharge their duties with more regard to the safety of human life and the best interests of humanity, and approving of the organization of the "American Pharmaceutical Association;" and requesting the Convention to co-operate with this National Association in its laudable efforts "to advance pharmaceutical knowledge, and elevate the professional character of Apothecaries and Druggists in the United States."

On motion of Dr. Thurston.

The resolutions presented from Hartford County were severally referred to select committees, to report thereon to the present Convention.

Dr. Hunt then presented the resolution of Hartford County, recommending several physicians therein named, for the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Medicine. On motion of the Secretary, this resolution was referred to the Standing Committee, to be raised, on Honorary Degrees and Honorary Members.

Dr. Collin then offered a resolution, that a committee of three be appointed, to apply to the Legislature for an alteration of the third section of the "Act to incorporate the Connecticut Medical Society," by erasing the word "second," and inserting "fourth," preceding "Wednesday in May," so that hereafter the Annual Meeting of the Convention of the Connecticut Medical Society will be held on the

fourth Wednesday in May in each year, in the place of the second Wednesday, as now required by said act of incorporation. The object of the change being to accommodate those members of the Society who may be members of the American Medical Association, and Fellows to the Convention of the State Medical Society, that they might be enabled to attend both meetings. The action, referred to a committee consisting of Drs. Bacl, Foster, and Wood.

On motion, it was voted to appoint a committee of three, to attend the annual meeting of the Massachusetts Medical Society, to be held at Springfield, on the last Wednesday of June, 1855. On motion, the nomination of said delegates was referred to the Committee to nominate Delegates to the National Medical Association.

On motion of Dr. Thurston,

Resolved, That if any Clerk, in the discharge of his duty, shall prosecute a fellow of the Society, he shall be supported by the State Society, and that money to carry on a law-suit from the State Treasury.

The resolution was referred to a committee, consisting of Drs. Thurston, Lathrop, and Dean.

On motion of Dr. Ford, Dr. J. V. C. Smith, of Boston, was invited to a seat in the Convention, and Dr. Halle was requested to call upon Dr. Smith, and inform him of the vote, and escort him to the Convention now in session.

Drs. Hunt, Knight, Casey, Simmons, Fuller, Peters, Bennett, and Dean, were appointed a committee on the Hartford resolutions in reference to the Insane confined in Connecticut State Prison.

On motion, the Convention then proceeded to the election of officers for the coming year, when the following gentlemen were elected, *viz* :

WILLIAM H. CROSWELL, M. D. PRESIDENT.
BENJAMIN H. CATLIN, M. D. VICE-PRESIDENT.
JOSIAH G. BECKWITH, M. D. SECRETARY.
GEORGE O. SUMNER, M. D. TREASURER.

The Convention then adjourned until 2 o'clock, P. M.

Two o'clock, P. M.

The Convention came together.

The Treasurer read his report, which was accepted, and referred to a committee, consisting of Drs. Ives, Griggs, and Brown, to audit the same.

Abstract of Treasurer's Report.

Cash in Treasury,		\$299.15
Due from Clerks,	\$1,250.13	
Deduct one-third for bad debts, abatements, commissions, &c.,	418.71	
	<hr/>	831.42
		<hr/>
		\$1,071.55
The Society owes for debentures, outstanding,		448.25
		<hr/>
Leaving balance in favor of the Society,		\$623.30

Drs. Thurston, Lathrop, and McLean, were appointed a Committee on Debentures.

The Convention then proceeded to fill the vacancies in the Standing Committee for the ensuing year, by the election of

Reynold Webb, M. D., and Benjamin H. Cullin, M. D., in the Committee of Examination.

Jonathan Knight, M. D., and Isaac G. Porter, M. D., in the Committee to nominate Physicians to the Retreat for the Insane.

E. K. Hunt, M. D., and R. M. Fowler, M. D., in the Committee to nominate Professors in Yale College.

Drs. Hunt, Rockwell, and Simmons, were then appointed a Committee on the Resolutions of Hartford County, in reference to Sanitary reports from the several counties.

Drs. Comings, Canfield, and Bolles, on the resolutions of said county, on the Education of Druggists and Apothecaries; and,

Drs. N. B. Ives, Bush, and Preston, to report on the publication of the Biography of GEORGE SUMNER, M. D., by the Convention.

Drs. Knight, Hunt, and Porter, were then appointed a Committee to nominate Delegates to the American Medical Association.

Drs. Ford, Lewis, Silliman, Comings, D. Williams, Wood, Brown, and McLean, on Honorary Degrees and Honorary Members.

Des. Ives, Griggs, Thurston, Simmons, Sherwood, Fowler, Casey, and Dean, as Gratuities Students.

Des. Knight, Hunt, and Rockwell, to nominate Dissertator to the next Convention.

Dr. Knight, from the Committee on nominate Delegates to the American Medical Association, reported the names of Drs. N. B. Ives, N. S. Perkins, G. W. Russell, and P. G. Rockwell; and also reported the names of Drs. J. Knight, B. Rogers, and A. B. Haile, as Delegates to the Massachusetts Medical Society, the present year.

Report accepted, and the gentlemen were severally appointed as recommended.

Dr. Knight, from the Committee to nominate a Dissertator to the next Convention, reported John D. Ford, M. D., as Dissertator, and H. W. Buel, as substitute.

Report accepted, and the gentlemen were appointed.

Dr. Ives, from the Committee appointed to examine and audit the Treasurer's report, reported, that the committee had examined the same, and found it correct; and recommended the following resolution, which was accepted by the Convention.

Resolved, That past Clerks of County Medical Societies be requested to settle their accounts with the Treasurer, without further delay.

Dr. E. M. Fowler, from the Committee to whom was referred the alteration of the charter of the Connecticut Medical Society, changing the time of holding the annual meetings of the Convention from the second to the fourth Wednesday in May, submitted a report that said change is expedient, and recommended the appointment of a Committee to apply to the Legislature to make such change in the act of incorporation of the Society.

Report accepted, and Drs. Hunt, A. M. Knight, and Simmons, were appointed said committee.

Dr. Hunt, from the Committee on Unfinished Business, reported that the only unfinished business of last year was the report of the Committee appointed on Dr. Wood's resolution on the labeling of all medicines in plain English, and the New Hampshire Circular. That said matter was referred to a Committee of which Dr. Beardsley was Chairman.

Dr. Beardsley was not in Convention, but made through Dr.

Knight a verbal report, that in his opinion no action was necessary by the Convention.

Dr. Wood, a member of the same Committee, being present, stated that the Committee had held no meeting, but he had submitted his opinion to the Chairman, and was now in favor of petitioning the Legislature to pass a law which should prohibit the sale of Patent Medicines, unless labeled in plain English."

On motion of Dr. Sumner, seconded by Dr. Wood, the subject was postponed to the next Convention, and referred to a Committee consisting of Drs. Wood, Fuller, and Lewis.

Dr. Stephen G. Hubbard then read a Dissertation on "Registration the Basis of Sanitary Reform."

On which, Dr. Beckwith offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the thanks of the Convention are due, and are hereby tendered to Stephen G. Hubbard, M. D., for his very able and important paper, read by him, on Registration, and that he be requested to furnish a copy, for publication with the proceedings of the Convention.

The resolution was seconded by Dr. Knight, and passed unanimously.

Dr. Ives, from the Committee on the Biography of the late Dr. Sumner, reported that they had examined the same, endorsed the resolutions of Hartford County, and recommended the publication of the Biography, with the proceedings of the Convention.

Report accepted, and resolution passed.

In consequence of the unavoidable absence of Drs. Ford and McLean, from the Convention, their vacancies on the Committee on Honorary Degrees and Honorary Members, were filled by Drs. Baltes and Lathrop, and Dr. Brown on Debetures, in place of Dr. McLean.

Dr. Hunt, from the Committee appointed to examine the resolutions submitted to the Convention by the Hartford County Medical Society, on the procuring of Sanitary reports from the several counties, made the following report:

That they have examined the plan adopted by Hartford County Medical Society, submitted to their consideration, and published in the proceedings of last year, and have also examined several papers submitted to the County Medical Society, obtained under that system, and are of the opinion that if the same were adopted by the several counties of the State as energetically and perseveringly as

these important demands, it would ultimately furnish an ample and reliable sanitary condition of the State.

We propose further, that in addition to these inquiries, the report of Dr. Gordon W. Russell, Chairman of the Committee of Hartford County Medical Society, be published with the proceedings of the present year, that members may learn the method adopted in that county, in making up reports, and pursue it with more or less fullness as circumstances demand.

In conclusion, they beg leave to offer the following resolution.

Resolved, That this Convention earnestly recommended to each county of the State to enter upon the work of preparing a sanitary report after the plan pursued in Hartford County, and which appears with sufficient fullness to be readily understood in the published proceedings of the present year.

Signed,

HUNT,	} Committee.
ROCKWELL,	
SIMMONS,	

Report accepted, and resolutions adopted.

Dr. Ives, from the Committee on Graduating Students, reported that

New Haven county had elected,	Samuel Shepard,
Middlesex county,	George H. Perry,
Litchfield county,	Edward Bulkley, Jr.,
Fairfield county,	Elijah Gregory,
Middlesex county,	Nehemiah Nickerson,
Tolland county,	Stephen F. Pomeroy.

For vacancies in Hartford and New London counties, Richard Foote and John Johnson, A. B.

Report accepted, and the vacancies were filled by Richard Foote and John Johnson.

Dr. Knight offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the several county societies be requested to collect and report to this Convention, at its annual meeting in each year, the names of such members of their respective societies as have died during the previous year, with such obituary notices of them as they may deem proper.

Resolution carried unanimously.

On motion of Dr. Ford, the following resolution was adopted.

Resolved, That we recommend to the physicians throughout the State, a full and earnest compliance with the provisions of the Registration law and to persist in its observance.

Dr. Thurston offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That the clerks of the several county societies hereafter be exempt from all taxes due to the State Society, during their term of office, in addition to the janitor's fee.

Resolution adopted.

On motion of Dr. Beckwith, the following resolutions were adopted.

Resolved, That in the deaths of Samuel Bach, M. D., Aaron Moody, M. D., Thomas P. Wadley, M. D., Horace Burgess, M. D., Avery Downer, M. D., John Noyes, M. D., Ralph Carter, M. D., late prominent members and fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society, the medical profession have lost useful and honorable members and the Connecticut Medical Society some of its most faithful supporters and distinguished ornaments.

Resolved further, That —————, be a committee to prepare suitable sketches of the deceased, and report to the county meetings, to be by them submitted to the next annual Convention.

On motion, the blank was filled by a committee of one from a county, viz.

Ed. Ives, M. D.,	New Haven county,
Gordon W. Russell, M. D.,	Hartford county,
Wm. B. Casey, M. D.,	Middlesex county,
J. G. Beckwith, M. D.,	Litchfield county,
R. Blakeman, M. D.,	Fairfield county,
W. Campbell, M. D.,	Windham county,
J. D. Ford, M. D.,	New London county,
T. Dimock, M. D.,	Tolland county.

Dr. Ford, from the Committee on Honorary Degrees and Honorary Members, recommended the names of Dr. Sidney W. Rockwell, of East Windsor, Dr. S. Wadsworth Hart, New Britain, Dr. Warren Throff, Glastenbury, Dr. Erasmus Bancroft, of Watertown, to be recommended to the Corporation of Yale College, for the Honorary Degree of

Doctor of Medicine, and also recommended that the names reported last year be again forwarded to the Corporation of Yale College, and entered on the Triennial Catalogue for the year 1864.

Also, J. V. C. Smith, M. D., of Boston,
Joseph Sargent, M. D., of Worcester,
O. Wendell Holmes, M. D., of Boston,
Moses F. Cogswell, M. D., of Albany,

as Honorary Members of the State Medical Society.

The report of the committee was accepted, and on balloting for the several gentlemen, they were found severally elected, *viz.*

Drs. Rockwell, Hunt, Thrall and Burrill, for recommendation to the Corporation of Yale College, for the Honorary Degree of M. D., and Drs. Smith, Sargent, Holmes and Cogswell, as Honorary Members of the Connecticut Medical Society.

Dr. Comings, from the Committee to whom was referred the resolutions submitted by the Hartford County Medical Society, in regard to the preparatory education of Druggists and Apothecaries, made the following report :

That the resolutions presented by the Hartford County Medical Society be adopted and published in the transactions of this Society, and that our Secretary be requested to forward a copy of the resolutions to the American Pharmaceutical Society.

COMINGS,	} Committee.
SANDFORD,	
BOLLES,	

Resolved, That the action of the Hartford County Medical Society in regard to the dissection of Dr. John Case, be confirmed by this Convention.

On motion of Dr. Knight,

Resolved, That a tax of one dollar and fifty cents be laid upon each member, payable on the 1st June next.

Resolutions adopted, and tax laid.

Adjourned to 8 o'clock, Tuesday, A. M.

Thursday, Eight o'clock, A. M.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee on Dr. Thurston's resolution, through their chairman, Dr. Thurston, reported, that the By-Laws are sufficiently explicit on the subject, and beg leave to be discharged from its further consideration.

Report accepted, and committee discharged.

Dr. Baldwin, another member of the Committee on Dr. Wood's resolution, reported further, that the sale of Patent Medicine nostrums, involves a large sum of money, variously estimated from fifty to five hundred thousand dollars; that most of this sum is carried from the State, and pays no tax, being sold by peddlers and others on commission; that it is just that it should pay a certain tax or license in the towns where raised; that the payment of a license fee would restrict the sale of those articles in which the manufacturers have no confidence, and limit the operations of the adventurers who seek to replenish their pockets by hawking articles of pretended efficacy on the suffering sick. The committee would recommend that the Convention call the attention of our State Legislature to this view of the subject for such legislation as sound political economy demands.

The report was read and referred to the Committee, already appointed, on Patent Medicines and Nostrums.

The reports of the Standing Committees were then called for, when the Secretary (in the absence of Dr. Welch, appointed to make the report of the Committee of Examination, not having rendered it,) stated that the published report of the Dean contained the proceedings; that the class was unusually well prepared, and in all respects worthy of the Institution, whose diploma they received by the unanimous approbation of the Board.

The Committee on the appointment of Professors for Yale College, and the Standing Committee on the appointment of Physician to the Retreat for the Insane, reported that no proceedings had been called for in their several boards.

Reports accepted.

The following is the resolution from Hartford County, in relation to Insane Convicts.

Whereas, it appears to this Society, from statements made to it to-day, and from the many published reports of former Physicians and Wardens of the State Prison, that Insane convicts in considerable numbers, are always to be found there, for whose comfort or recovery no suitable accommodations are furnished, or means employed; and believing, as we do, that the interests of humanity and of the State, are both involved in a change, having for its object the recovery, if possible, of the class of persons above-named. Therefore,

Resolved, That this Society respectfully request the State Medical Society, at its ensuing Convention, duly to consider this important subject; and by an active committee, or otherwise, place itself in relation with those to whom the power of furnishing relief belongs, and earnestly endeavor to procure such action in the premises, as best promises to secure the end contemplated.*

Dr. Brown, from the Committee on Delegates, made a report, which was accepted, and ordered to be paid.

Dr. P. G. Beckwith offered the following resolution,

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention be rendered to the Norwich Medical Association, the Municipal Authorities, and other citizens of Norwich, for the very generous and hospitable manner in which they have greeted and entertained us during our sojourn here.

Resolution passed unanimously.

On motion, the Convention then adjourned *sine die*.

Attest,

JOSIAH G. BECKWITH, *Secretary*.

*The object contemplated in the above resolution, was, early in the session, brought by petition before the Legislature, and referred to the "Committee on State Humane Institutions," whose report is appended to these Proceedings, principally for the sake of bringing several highly interesting facts to the notice of the profession, and thus secure its hearty co-operation, in carrying on to completion, the undertaking, which the appropriation of the present year, has enabled us to begin.

Members of the Society.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

JAMES JACKSON,	Danvers, Mass.
JOHN C. WARREN,	Boston, Mass.
BENJAMIN SILLIMAN,	New Haven.
THEODORE BOMEYN DECK,	Albany, N. Y.
EDWARD DELAETTEL,	New York.
JOHN DELAMATER,	Cincinnati, Ohio.
JACOB BIGELOW,	Haver, Mass.
WALTER CHANNING,	Danvers, Mass.
HENRY MITCHELL,	Syracuse, N. Y.
NATHAN BENO SMITH,	Baltimore, Md.
VALENTINE HOTT,	New York.
REUBEN D. MUSSEL,	Chicopee, Mass.
WILLIAM TULLY,	Springfield.
RICHMOND BROWNELL,	Cincinnati, O. I.
WILLIAM BEAUMONT,	St. Louis, Mo.
SAMUEL HENRY DICKSON,	Chesham, N. C.
STEPHEN W. WILLIAMS,	Dorchester, Mass.
WILLARD PARKER,	New York.
BENJAMIN TUCKER,	U. S. Navy.
ALDEN MARCEL,	Albany, N. Y.
CHARLES A. LEE,	New York.
DAVID S. C. H. SMITH,	Providence, R. I.
HENRY D. BULKLEY,	New York.
F. MARION SYMS,	Montgomery, Ala.
JOHN TATSON,	New York.
FRANK D. HAMILTON,	Genoa, N. Y.
ROBERT WATTS,	New York.
A. Y. C. SMITH,	Boston.
G. WENDELL HOLMES,	Boston.
JOSEPH SARGENT,	Worcester.
MARION F. FINESTWELL,	Albany, N. Y.

ORDINARY MEMBERS.

The names of those Members who are exempt from pecuniary exp., are in italics; the names of those who have been Presidents of the Society, are in capitals.

BARTFORD CHURCH.

NETH L. CHILD, M. D., *Quincy.*

WILLIAM H. BURNHALL, M. D., *Chil.*

BARTFORD, Henry Holmes, Samuel B.	PLIMOUTH, G. A. Moody.
Beverford, George B. Hambley, Gardian	PLIMOUTH, William H. Sage.
W. Russell, David Cury, F. W. Elsworth,	GLAUBURN, Clinton Eaton.
Beyersia Rogers, E. K. Hunt,	South Glauburn, C. E. Hammond,
John S. Butler, J. C. Jackson, A. W.	Laurel J. Andrews, Henry Isbitts.
Bassett, Thomas May, M. W. Wil-	CANON, John Stirling.
son, William Porter, John H. Wells,	GLAUBURN, Joseph P. Jones.
William R. Dowland, P. W. Hastings,	East Glauburn, Charles Hambley.
S. C. Pymon, J. S. Carter, S. C.	West Glauburn, James D. Wilcox.
Hall, Edwin Blakely, J. S. Green-	North Glauburn, Francis F. Allen.
ham.	MAVERICK, W. L. Williams, M.
AVON, Alfred Kellogg.	son.
BERLIN, E. Bradshaw, Jr.	Buck Hill, Sylvester Bailey, R. W.
NEW BARTON, Samuel Hart, Revell	Gilbreth.
Bowley, E. D. Hancock, B. N. Com-	SCHUYLER, Edmund A. Wain.
ings.	TAYLOR, George W. Sanford, Charles
BROOKFIELD, Oliver Gray.	W. Knapp.
BURTON, Joseph W. Cargy, John S.	SOUTHINGTON, Julius S. Darns, N. B.
Mundy, Lucius North.	Hingham, F. A. Hart.
BERKSHIRE, William Elton, Jr.	SOUTH WYOMING, Homer C. Adams,
CANTON, Galesville, Russell H. Tibbitts.	H. Goodrich.
EAST BARTFORD, Al. Hall, Seth L.	EAST WYOMING, Wm. Wood, Ed-
Child, Charles M. Brewster, B. E.	ney Rockwell.
Olson.	SUFFERD, S. B. Low, Arthur Elton.
EAST WYOMING, Homer Warren.	West Sufferd, D. W. Kellogg.
David Doud, Marcus L. Fish.	WYOMINGVILLE, E. P. Cooke, A. S.
WYOMING, Lynd, Joseph Olanoff.	Warner, H. Fox.
HAVERLY, J. P. Owsen, A. E. Spaul-	WEST HARTFORD, Edmund Bacon.
ding, H. A. Grant.	WYOMING, William S. Patten, A. Mar-
THOMPSON, J. Harry Black, L. S.	ston, Samuel A. Wilson.
Price.	WYOMING, Samuel W. Skinner.
FLAMINGHAM, Asahel Thompson.	Papenash, Oliver B. Griggs.

NEW HAVEN COUNTY.

HENRY BRONSON, M. D., Chairman.

S. O. HERRING, M. D., Clerk.

NEW HAVEN, *IN* *law*, T. P. Bove, Jonathan Knight, Samuel Peabody, A. S. Mason, Charles Hooker, Nathan R. Ives, E. H. Bishop, E. D. North, J. A. Totten, Levi Ives, T. J. A. Jewett, D. L. Duggan, George C. Swaine, D. A. Tyler, Henry Bronson, E. A. Park, S. G. Hubbard, W. J. Whiting, A. C. Blakeslee, H. W. E. Mathews, C. A. Lindley, Worthington Hooker, T. F. Gory, Jr., Charles Brington, Venderlin Hooker, Samuel Lloyd, Geo. F. Huntington, Thomas H. Tynes, J. K. Down, Moses C. White, Leonard J. Sanford, C. L. Ives, Robert Knox, Lucius A. Smith, *Ex-Officio*, C. S. Thompson, W. M. White, James Foster.

REHART, Asa C. Woodward.

BRADFORD, William L. Tag, Jacob O. Loomis.

NORTH BRANFORD, Sheldon Beardsley.

CHESHAM, A. J. Briggs, Harvey B. Way, Nath. B. Wilson.

DEER, Joseph, Samuel P. Church.

BRIGHTON, Andrew Beardsley, T. Datta.

HARTFORD, E. D. Swift.

HARTFORD, *Alfred* Beardsley, Shelden C. Johnson, Joshua Kendall, Thomas Beardsley.

EAST HARTFORD, *John* Beardsley.

NORTH HARTFORD, Russell P. Stillman.

GILBERT, Joel Canfield, Alfred Talbot.

MANSFIELD, Reynolds Webb, D. W. Webb.

HARTFORD, Lewis Barnes.

WEST HARTFORD, B. H. Coles, Edward W. Hatch.

TALMAGE, C. B. McCarty.

MANSFIELD, Hall Allen, L. N. Beardsley.

NATHANIEL, J. D. Menn, Timothy Tangle.

OXFORD, Russell Brown.

SOUTHBRIDGE, A. B. Barry.

SOUTH BRIDGE, S. C. Bickley.

WALLINGFORD, Nicholas Barks, Samuel N. Bove.

WATERBURY, G. L. Platt, John Deane, George E. Perkins, M. H. Perkins, Sturges Bickley, P. G. Rockwell, Thomas Dougherty.

WESTMANSFIELD, Isaac Goodell, Andrew Gault.

NEW LONDON COUNTY.

ASHEB. WOODWARD, M. D., Chairman.

BENJAMIN B. DEAY, M. D., Clerk.

NEW LONDON, *Dea*, T. Leonard, Nathaniel S. Peck, James Morgan, James G. Porter, Wm. W. Miner, Seth Smith, D. P. Francis, Albert Babson, Robert A. Hargrave.

NORWICH, Richard P. Ferry, Frank Goodell, Eliza Dyer, Eliza Plummer, John D. Ford, Edwin Beardsley, Benjamin D. Hays, John F. Fuller, Alvino Fisher, Harner Thurston, Henry W. Leach, Daniel G. Galtier, A. B. Hale.

ROSELAND, Samuel Johnson.

COLUMBIA, Eliot W. Farrow, Frederick Morgan.

EAST LYME, John L. Smith, Asa F. Perkins.

FRANKLIN, Alfred Woodward.

GREENGLASS, Asa C. W. W. Smith, William Smith.

GREENGLASS, Joseph Darby.

GREENGLASS, A. T. Douglass.

GREENGLASS, Joseph Canfield, Ralph T. Green.

GREENGLASS, *John* Ferry, Rufus W. McGowan.

LYME, Richard Noyes.

LYME, Wm. W. J. Warren.

MONTVILLE, John C. Rolles.

LYME, Samuel E. Maynard.

FRANKLIN, Elmer D. Duggan.

FRANKLIN, Henry C. Randall.

LYME, Nathaniel Peck.

FRANKLIN, William Hyde, George E. Palmer, William Hyde, Jr.

LYME, Mason Manning.

LYME, E. F. Coon, A. W. Coon.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY.

SAMUEL S. NOTES, M. D., Chairman.

JAMES SHERWOOD, M. D., Clerk.

FAIRFIELD, S. P. V. R. Ten Brook.
 Greenfield, RUFUS BLAKEMAN.
 Southport, JUSTUS SHREVE.
 BRIDGEPORT, D. H. NASH, President.
 J. Johnson, H. L. W. TOWN, William
 H. Nash, Robert Hubbard, H. S.
 Bennett.
 BRIDGEFIELD, NASH, J. LONG, A. L.
 Williams.
 DASHLEY, D. H. HEDDER, E. P. BEN-
 SON.
 EASTON, JAMES BALDWIN, ALLEN P.
 TOLSON.

HEXTERTON, JAMES H. STEIN.
 MIDDLETOWN, SAMUEL H. HALL.
 NEW CANAAN, SAMUEL S. KIRK, LEWIS
 Richards.
 NORWALK, JOHN A. McLEOD, Indus-
 try.
 SEABOARD, S. D. BAUGH, SUMMIT.
 South, LEWIS HARTSH.
 SEABOARD, WILLIAM T. SHAW.
 TOWNHILL, EDWARD M. DODGE.
 BROOK, GEORGE DAVIS.
 WESTPORT, ROBERT BLACKMAN, DAVID
 S. BERT.

WINDHAM COUNTY.

ORRIN WITTER, M. D., Chairman.

JAMES B. WHITEHEAD, M. D., Clerk.

BROOKLYN, JAMES B. WHITEHEAD, Dis-
 trict M. Hale, William Woodbridge.
 ANDOVER, JOHN H. SIMMONS.
 CANTONMENT, ELYAH BILKIN, Joseph
 Palmer.
 CHAPMAN, DAVID WINTER.
 HAMPTON, HYPER HAYES.
 KILLBUCK, DORVILLE, JAMES HAN-
 COCK.
 South Killbuck, DANIEL A. BERRY.
 East Killbuck, E. A. BAY.
 West Killbuck, DANIEL E. HALL, SUMMIT.
 HARTMAN, STEPHEN C. GREGG.
 QUINCY, HENRY W. BROUGH, THOMAS
 W. PERRY.
 PLAINFIELD, WM. H. COGSWELL.
 Mount, MARY BAYSON, NATHAN S. FINE,
 LEWIS E. DAVIS.

GREENVILLE, ELISH BARTON, Jr.
 PLYMOUTH, OLIVER HOLT, LEWIS WIL-
 LIAMS.
 SYDNEY, WILLIAM A. LEWIS.
 TOWNSEND, HOWARD BILKIN, JOHN
 MILLER.
 TOWNSEND, HENRY COOPER.
 WINDHAM, CHAS. HUNT, DR. WELCH.
 HARTMAN, JOHN HILL, Jr.
 JENNINGS, OLENE B. BRADLEY.
 WINDHAM, NICH. ANN WYER.
 South Windham, JAMES MARY.
 West Windham, MERRILL BRADLEY.
 CHARLES H. RIGGS.
 KATONAH, HENRY COOP.

LITCHFIELD COUNTY.

WILLIAM W. WELCH, M. D., Chairman.

H. W. BULL, M. D., Clerk.

LITCHFIELD, JULIUS G. BUCKWOLD, Geo.
 Seymour, D. E. FARRICK, E. OLFORD,
 H. W. HALL.
 South Litchfield, GEORGE H. MINEY.
 CANAAN, THOMAS H. SEELY.
 South Canaan, JOHN A. GILLEN.

COVENTRY, HENRI B. NATH, JOHN H.
 WELCH.
 West Coventry, SAMUEL W. GALT.
 COVENTRY, NICH. PERRY.
 GARDNER, GEORGE, GARDNER H. ST. JOHN.
 GARDNER, A. M. BUCKLEY.

HARTWIG, — Miller.
 KERRY, Wells *Dwelling*, John E. Smith.
 NEW HAVEN, *Isabel Williams*, Wm.
 B. Lucy.
Dwelling, Hester *Babson*.
 NORFOLK, William W. Welch, E. D.
 Higgins.
 PLIMOUTH, Samuel T. Salisbury.
Plimouth Hall, William Woodcutt.
 ROBERT, Myron Downs.
 SALISBURY, O. Flood.
 Salisbury, Benjamin Welch, Jr., Wm.
 M. Knight.
 NEW HARTFORD, South, — Babson.

SHANNON, Ralph Denney, Chas. W.
 Root.
 TURRELL, *Woburnville*, Foster *Ban-*
croft, J. W. Phelps.
 WARREN, O. Brown.
 WATKINS, Mackey *Pratt*.
 WASHINGTON, H. M. Fowler.
 New *Pratt*, Sidney H. Lyman, Ed-
 ward P. Lyman.
 WATKINS, Samuel Coffin, Jr.
 WINDHAM, Hor. Wadell, James
 Welch, H. G. Woodhull, J. W. El-
 well.
 WOODBURY, Charles H. Webb.

C. HERRICKS CORNER.

M. D., Chairman.

REINHOLD R. NYE, M. D., Clerk.

MIDDLEBURY, Joseph Babson, Charles
 Woodcutt, William B. Gove, Da-
 vid Harrison, Franklin Woodcutt,
 Eliza B. Nye, George W. Turke,
 Maria C. Hays.
 CHATHAM, Earl Hampton, Francis H.
 Edgerton.
 Middle *Hudson*, A. B. Woodcutt.
 CHERRY, S. W. Ferry.
 CLINTON, Dunbar H. Hubbard.
 CROSWELL, Ida Hilditch.

DURHAM, Benjamin M. Foster.
 EAST HARTFORD, Am. H. Hall, James
 Hilditch.
 HARTFORD, Edwin Edgell.
 HARTFORD, William H. Tompkins.
 PORTLAND, George O. Jarvis, G. C. H.
 Gillett.
 SAVANNAH, Am. H. King.
 Gray *River*, Rufus Baker.
 OLD HARTFORD, *Cherry*, Alexander H.
 Hough, Frederick W. Shepard.

TOLLAND CORNER.

ORSON WOOD, M. D., Chairman.

GILBERT H. PAXTON, M. D., Clerk.

TOLLAND, *Isabel Ladd*, Oliver B.
 Ladd, Gilbert H. Paxton.
 BARNES, Charles F. Sargent.
 CALDWELL, Harrison Melick.
 COUNTRY, *North*, *Albion Hall*.
 So. *Greeney*, T. Dwyer, H. S. Dow.
 ELLINGTON, *Albion Hall*, *Hartford*,
 J. H. Manning.
 HARTFORD, JOHN S. PETERS, *Cherry*,
 C. White, Elijah A. Woodcutt.
 HARTFIELD, *North*, *Savannah*, *Barnes*,
 W. H. Richardson.

North, Edwin G. Sargent.
 South *Hartfield*, *Earl Smith*.
 SARGENT, *Greeney*, *Ernest*, E.
 Hamilton.
 STRATTON, *East*, William S. Clark,
 Edward S. Bode.
 Stratford, West, *Isabel C. Hodget*.
 TOLLAND, E. Loring.
 TOLLAND, John B. Lewis.
 TOLLAND, M. M. Fyfe, Allen Shiner.
 WILLINGTON, Francis L. Dickinson.

SUMMARY OF ORDINARY MEMBERS FOR 1885, WITH THE
DEATHS IN THE YEAR ENDING APRIL 1, 1885.

	Tenants.	Not Tenants.	Total.	Deaths.
Hartford County,	75	6	81	2
New Haven County,	73	11	84	3
New London County,	36	11	47	2
Fairfield County,	25	7	32	0
Windham County,	38	3	41	1
Litchfield County,	33	4	37	2
Middlesex County,	22	2	24	0
Tolland County,	20	0	20	0
Total	316	54	370	8

Note.—Former Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society, are prominent members of the medical Association, bearing the burdens of attending all meetings, and performing all the duties of attending members, except during visiting duty only. And all resolutions of the Society are carried, by the Fellows, to be passed at all meetings of the Association.

DEATHS OF MEMBERS DURING THE YEAR ENDING APRIL 1, 1885.

WITH THE AGE, THE DISEASE, AND HOW IT WAS ASSEMBLED.

Hartford County.—*Edgar Carter*, of *Glensbury*, aged 74 years. *Diarrhea*, following of the *Hemorrhage*. *George Sumner*, of *Hartford*, aged 61. *Diarrhea*, following of the *Hemorrhage*.

New Haven County.—*James Munroe*, of *New Haven*, aged 63, of *Typhoid Fever*.

New London County.—*Amos Deane*, of *Twins*, aged 63 years, of *Hemorrhage*. *Dr. Wm. E. Wright*, of *North Stratford*, of *Diarrhea* of the *Rectum*, aged 44. *John Rogers*, of *Lyons*, aged 60, of *Pneumonia*.

Windham County.—*Thomas Burgess*, of *Hamden*, of *Diarrhea*, aged 70.

Litchfield County.—*Samuel Hall*, of *Litchfield*, aged 72, of *Diarrhea*. *John P. Hall*, of *West*, aged 65, *unusually deceased* in *Diarrhea* *prolongata*.

DUTIES OF CLERKS.

To read County Minutes.

To read the proceedings of the Society Meetings.

To collect the dues, and pay the same to the Treasurer.

To transmit to the Secretary a list of his district Fellows; and the person recommended as a candidate for a gentlemanly course of lectures, immediately after the County Meetings, for submission.

To make certificates of Fellowship, to be transmitted to the Secretary, on or before the first day of the Convention.

To transmit duplicate lists of the Members of the Society, to the Secretary and Treasurer, on or before the first day of the Convention, on the penalty of ten dollars for each neglect.

To return to the Treasurer the names of all support Members of the Society.

To report to the Secretary of the State Convention, on the first day of its session, the names, ages and diseases of the members of this Society, who may have died during the year preceeding the 1st of April in each year, in their several County Societies.

RULES OF ORDER.

1. Organization.
2. Certificate of Membership presented and read by the Secretary.
3. Committee on the Election of Fellows.
4. Address of President.
5. Election of Officers for ensuing year.
6. Unfinished business of previous year disposed of.
7. Reception and references, without debate, of Communications, Treatises, &c., from the several Counties, and Members of the Convention.
8. Reading Treasurer's Report.
9. Committee to audit the same.
10. Committee on Debentures.
11. Standing Committees appointed.
12. Committee to nominate Delegates to National Convention.
13. Committee on Candidates for Graduation Course of Letters.
14. Committee on Honorary Degrees and Honorary Memberships.
15. Committee to nominate Discreetors.
16. Dissertation.
17. Reports of Committees appointed on County Communications, Treatises, &c.
18. Reports of Standing Committees.
19. Reports of Candidates in the order in which business was brought forward in Convention.
20. Miscellaneous business.

DISSERTATIONS READ IN CONVENTIONS.

1794. Dr. S. H. P. Lee, on *Animal Bilious Fever*.
1794. Dr. Gibson Shepherd, on the *Properties of Opium*.
1795. Dr. F. P. Ouziers, on the *Preparations of Antimony*.
1795. Dr. Thaddeus Betts, on the *Different Species of Colic*.
1796. Dr. F. P. Ouziers, on the *Contagion of Yellow Fever*.
1796. Dr. S. H. P. Lee, on *Cymuche Tomillaris*.
1796. Dr. Lewis Collins, on the most eligible mode of *Increasing Medical Knowledge in this State*.
1796. Dr. Gibson Shepherd, on the *same subject*.
1798. Dr. Samuel Hopkins, case of *Bilious Consumption*.
1798. Dr. Jared Potter, "An Essay."
1798. Dr. Thaddeus Clark, a *Dissertation*.
1800. Dr. Nathaniel Dwight, on *Lunacy*.
1804. Dr. Samuel Willard, on the *Stafford Mineral Waters*.
1817. Dr. W. B. Fowler, on the *Deleterious Effects of Ardent Spirits*.
1818. Dr. William Bush, on *Ergot*.
1820. Dr. Thomas Miner, on *Typhus Fever*.
1821. Dr. Samuel Rockwell, on *Uterine Hemorrhage*.
1822. Dr. William Tully, on the *Yellow Fever at Middlebury*.
1823. Dr. Dyer T. Brainard.
1827. Dr. Samuel E. Woodward, on the *Biography of the Physicians of the State*.
1829. Dr. George Sumner, on *Extraneous Consumption*.
1829. Dr. Charles Hooker, on *Disseuse of the Ear*.
1835. Dr. Benjamin Welch, Jr., on the *Viridity of the Blood*.
1836. Dr. E. H. Bishop, *Influence of Moral Emotions on Disease*.
1837. Dr. Archibald Welch, on *Scarlet Fever*.
1838. Dr. Isaac G. Porter, on the *Disease commonly designated Spinal Irritation*.
1839. Dr. Henry Bronson, on the *Mental Qualifications necessary to a Physician*.

1840. Dr. Richard Warner, on the Advantages of prompt and efficient practice in Acute Diseases.
1841. Dr. Amariah Brigham, on Insanity as a subject of Medical Jurisprudence.
1842. Dr. Charles Woodworth, on Uterine Irritation.
1843. Dr. Pinckney W. Ellsworth, on Phlebotomy.
1844. Dr. Warthington Hooker, on the Respect due to the Medical Profession, and the reasons that it is not awarded by the Community.
1845. Dr. Nathan B. Foss, on Laryngismus Stridulus.
1846. Dr. Theodore Sill, Observations on Typhus Fever.
1847. Dr. E. K. Hunt, on the Importance of a Medical Organization, and the advantages resulting from it.
1848. Dr. B. F. Barker, Remarks on some forms of disease of the Cervix Uteri.
1849. Dr. Alvan Talbot, on Hygiene.
1850. Dr. Johnson C. Hatch, on Medical Jurisprudence.
1851. Dr. George Sumner, on the Early Physicians of Connecticut.
1853. Dr. Rufus Blakeman, Early Physicians of Fairfield County.
1855. Dr. Samuel Beach, on Popularizing Medicine.
1854. Dr. Wm. B. Casey, on Diseased Cervix Uteri.
1855. Dr. Stephen G. Hubbard, on Registration, as the basis of Moral Reform.

APPENDIX.

Report of the Annual Examination of the Medical Institution of Yale College, for the year 1855.

THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS convened on Wednesday, January 10, and continued in session two days. Present, on the part of the Connecticut Medical Society:

William B. Uggewell, M. D., of Plainfield, President.

Joshua G. Backwith, M. D., of Litchfield.

Lewis Williams, M. D., of Danbury.

John D. Ford, M. D., of Norwich.

William W. Welch, M. D., of Norwich.

And, on the part of Yale College, Professors J. Knight, T. P. Hunt, P. Hooker, H. Brewster, W. Hooker, and B. Estlin, D.

The candidates were examined, and recommended for the degree of Doctor in Medicine, viz.:

1. Edmund Henry Bartlett, Middletown, Conn., on "Pneumia."
2. Henry Davis, Oxford, on "Scorbutus."
3. Robert Kress, New Haven, on "Blood-poisoning."
4. Walter Seward Manger, Madison, on "Aperients."
5. Samuel Curtis Robinson, B. A., Guilford, on "Pneumonia."
6. Henry Putnam Stuart, B. A., Newburyport, Mass., on "Tuberculosis."
7. George Washington Strong, Bolton, on "Ophthalmia."
8. Edwin George Sumner, Yelland, on "Zygodontia Fovea."
9. William Henry Treadwidge, Stamford, on "Scurvy in Prison."
10. Lucius Sumner Wilson, B. A., West Goshen, "The Valedictory Address."

The Commencement Exercises, on Thursday evening, were attended by a large audience of ladies and gentlemen, in the Medical College.

The Valedictory Address was given by Dr. Lucius Sumner Wilson, of the Graduating Class; and the Annual Address to the Class, by Hurdnet B. Bennett, of Bridgeport, in behalf of the Board of Professors; after which the Degrees were conferred by President Woolsey.

Benjamin H. Crafts, M. D., of Meriden, and John D. Ford, M. D., of Norwich, were appointed to give the Annual Address to the candidates in 1856 and 1857.

WILLIAM W. WILCK, M. D., of *Norfolk*, was appointed to report the proceedings of the board to the President and Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society.

Adjourned to meet on *Wednesday, July 25th*, the day before the Commencement in Yale College.

CHARLES DOOKER, Secretary.

CIRCULAR OF THE HARTFORD COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY.*

HARTFORD, January 17th, 1854.

DEAR SIR:

At a meeting of the Hartford County Medical Society, held in this city, October 12th, 1853, a committee was appointed to collect materials for a Summary Report of this County. It is for this object that we now address you, and request your assistance in that respect. You will readily see how desirable it is that a summary history of each town in the County should be obtained, which can only be accomplished by the personal contributions of each Physician. Do we ask too much of you when we propose the following questions for your serious attention, answering such as you may be able, and adding such remarks or information as will make the history more complete?

A Medical History of your Town is what we especially want; this you can furnish yourself, or you can do it upon conference with your brethren, but do not wait for any one else to communicate such information as we ought to possess.

The questions are selected from those recommended by the General Board of Health of Massachusetts, and are thought to be sufficiently comprehensive, but you are desired to communicate any information not reached by these.

As members of a body of learned men, claiming to be scientific in character and pursuits, we owe something to the public as well as to ourselves. You can see, we dare say, that if we enter into this matter with spirit, we can bring together a mass of information that can be obtained in no other way, and which will be of immense importance. The concerted action of so many minds will develop many valuable facts, and will enable us more faithfully to fulfill our duty, not only of curing disease, but as much as possible of preventing it.

May we then present this subject of a Summary History of our County to your serious attention, and request that your communications be sent to the Chairman of this Committee by the middle of March next, so that a Report may be prepared for our County Meeting in April.

GURDON W. RUSSELL,	} Committee.
A. S. WARNER,	
G. A. MOODY,	
HORACE C. CHELETTE,	
OLIVER B. GRIFFIN,	

* Intended to be brought before the Convention, but having been omitted by accident, it is now (1854) published, by request, for the consideration of the State Medical Society.

INQUIRIES RELATING TO THE HEALTH, SICKNESS AND MORBILITY OF THE
INDIVIDUALS

1. What is the general character and condition of the town, whether healthy or unhealthy? What is the state of the most unhealthy parts, or where the highest rate of mortality is supposed to occur? What are the common ailments to which the people are subject?

2. Have cases of fever, dysentery, or other epidemic, sporadic, or contagious disease, or others of local character, been of frequent or rare occurrence? Have they been mild or malignant, and under what circumstances or among whom they occurred?

3. What was the aggregate annual amount of sickness suffered in different parts of the town, and among families and persons of different classes and occupations?

4. Please to give from the most authentic sources *what* your government sanitary history and condition of the town in past years, specifying the healthy and sickly years, and the number of deaths, and causes of such sickness and deaths that happened in each.

5. State the atmospheric causes of disease. In what kind of weather and season, hot or cold, wet or dry, changeable or steady, or otherwise, did the diseases of different kinds occur? Whether on a hill, plain, or a valley, mountain or its foot, near the sea, marsh, coast and near wharf? or in places subject to fogs or early frosts? and whether in a general epidemic or healthy season? Were there any peculiar circumstances observed in the appearance of disease, fish, or other animal life? or in vegetable productions? or in the electric or magnetic phenomena? What other atmospheric cause occurred?

6. State the local cause of disease. Was it due to an excess from running water? or in the vicinity of marsh, lake, low lands, drained or undrained, sometimes overflowed, sometimes dry; near stagnant water; covered or uncultivated soil or other ponds, commonly or occasionally full? or near some source of miasmata? Was it near any vegetable or animal matter in a state of decomposition; or other sick, impurities, or various exhalations, or mephitic or malarial influence or contagious disease of any kind? Was the house, or houses, in which different diseases occurred, usually crowded or otherwise? properly lighted, warmed, and ventilated? supplied with pure water? Were the springs and wells high or low? State any other local cause.

7. State the personal cause of disease. Whether the persons or families were natives of the town, or of other parts of the United States, or foreigners, or children of foreigners. If not natives, how long residents in the town, or in their particular place of abode? What was the position or occupation of the head of the family in which sickness or death occurred, or of the person, if over fifteen years of age? What was the hereditary or acquired constitution? What were the means or subsistence of the family, whether ample, moderate, or poor? Did they own or rent the house in which they lived? Were they industrious in their habits, cleanly in their persons and habitations, temperate and prudent in their diet and mode of living, or otherwise? Had their previous general health been

good? or had they been exposed to personal contagion? Was the cause accidental or otherwise? State any other personal cause.

8. In your opinion, what proportion of the sickness and mortality of the town might be prevented if the causes of disease were known, and the laws of health were understood and obeyed?

Questions and Recommendations suggested by the Facts elicited.

9. What inferences do you draw, what deductions do you make, or what conclusions do you derive, from the facts elicited? What suggestions would you make, or what measures would you propose to recommend, either municipal, social, or personal, to improve the sanitary condition of the town or its inhabitants? Please to specify measures and remedies; and suggest a mode by which they may be practically applied, and successfully carried into execution.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY HARTFORD COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY, RELATING TO DRUGGISTS AND APOTHECARIES.

Resolved, It has long been known, and witnessed with much regret, by the physicians of this county, that the business of the Druggist and Apothecary has been, and is now chiefly in the hands of those who have never been prepared, by a suitable scientific training, for their work; and that most, if not all of them are actively engaged, as agents or otherwise, in the sale of the various forms of Patent or Quick Medicines in vogue, apparently without a thought of the gross impropriety of it, and of the grievous wrong almost of necessity done to the ignorant purchaser of these secret and often dangerous compounds;—and

Resolved, Systematic, and well considered efforts are now making by the American Pharmaceutical Association, to remove the evils necessarily growing out of the existing state of their calling; therefore,

Resolved, That this Society are of the opinion, that sufficient preliminary education is not required on the part of those who propose to become Druggists and Apothecaries; that the business is pursued quite too much as a mere trade, and in the spirit of gain, is subservient, as it should be, the great interests with which it is associated; and that we will use our influence, in all suitable methods, steadily and perseveringly, to encourage only those who are found to be properly qualified for the discharge of this appropriate duty, and pursue their calling upon just, plain, which both economy and the interests of humanity alike require.

Resolved, That this Society has found with much satisfaction of the organization of the "American Pharmaceutical Association," approves of its principles, and will cordially co-operate with it in its laudable endeavors "to advance a Pharmaceutical knowledge, and elevate the professional character of Apothecaries and Druggists in the United States."

Resolved, That this Society earnestly recommends to the Druggists and Apothecaries throughout our State, to form among themselves Pharmaceutical Societies, such as will enable them to co-operate more efficiently in the accomplishment of the objects of the National Pharmaceutical Association.

Resolved, That our Fellows be instructed to present the foregoing resolutions to the State Medical Society, for its approval and adoption; and request that such notice be taken to bring the action of the Society to the notice, both of the National Association, and of the Druggists and Apothecaries of our State, as may be deemed expedient.

Attest,

W. E. BROWNELL,

Clk. of Hartford County Medical Society.

HARTFORD, April 13, 1855.

Sanitary Reports from Hartford County.

REPORT FROM HARTFORD ON THE TOPOGRAPHY AND HYGIENE.

BY GEDDON W. LIVEREE, M. D.

LAST year, and the year previous, a committee, composed of five individuals residing in different portions of the county, were appointed to procure materials for a sanitary report. They issued a circular, containing certain questions asking for information. This circular was published with the proceedings of the State Medical Convention in 1854, and has therefore been presented to every member of the society throughout the State. Although many in this county have not responded to the call upon them, yet a few returns have been sent in, and thus a commencement has begun. This whole matter of Public Hygiene, and the importance of digesting the mortality record of each town, is recommended to the considerate attention of the county societies. If these bodies will appoint a committee who will act energetically, a collection of facts and observations will be elicited, which in a short time will be of immense benefit.

And why should not these returns, or an abstract of them, be published each year with the Proceedings of the Convention? To no better purpose can the funds of the Society be devoted. An improvement in the character of the Proceedings has been manifested within a few years; but much might still be added to them. Not long since a few pages comprised the whole matter, and this was little else than a dry routine of the appointment of officers and committees. The day is past for all this, and if we expect to bring into our numbers the active, energetic minds of the day, or to hold those even who now are amongst us, we must present something more than a dull matter of legislation. Our great reason why we have so

many who are bound to the Society by a slender thread, is this, that they think they receive little benefit from it in return for the sum with which they are annually taxed. Let such be presented with a volume of Transactions every year, composed of Addresses, Essays read before County Meetings, and matters relating to Hygiene, and you will give them something which they can appreciate, something which is tangible, something of value in return for their tax.

And after all too, it is of no credit to us, that as a Society, we have been in existence since 1792, and have not yet issued a volume of Transactions. Others, of many less years' existence than our own, have done far better than this, and as professional men we should do something to show that we are interested in all matters of science.

With these remarks to the brethren throughout the State, I proceed to speak of matters relating to my own town.

Dr. Wilson was requested to prepare the tables of mortality for eight years past. This he has done, principally from the records of the Hartford Medical Society, which are, however, necessarily imperfect, as the information has been derived from no returns, except for the two last years, but only from the knowledge which the members of our body might have, or sometimes upon indefinite report. The limits also, with the above exception, have not been exactly defined; they have not embraced the whole town, but have probably included a population of about seventeen thousand souls. To those tables he has appended certain remarks, explanatory of their character, and there is also added a map showing the state of the temperature for the term of twenty months, prepared by Prof. Brocklesby, of Trinity College.

I have confined myself principally to the topography of the town, and to remarks upon matters relating to the Public Health.

HARTFORD.

The general Hygienic character and condition of the town is one of healthiness. There are no large marshes, or standing pools of bodies of water near by, to cause pernicious exhalations, and the ground is generally considerably elevated above the river. Main street is perhaps fifty feet above low water mark. A ridge or plain just about this level runs north to Windsor, and the elevation is not much less toward the south to Wethersfield. As you proceed west the ground rises, to the height of about 118 feet on Lee's Hill, and extends with a gradual elevation, alternated with

hill and dale to Talcott mountain. The soil is exceedingly varied, and occasionally there will be met a heavy stiff clay, and yellow sand, within the distance of a few rods. Generally speaking, in the immediate vicinity of the city it might be termed a clayey loam. At the south the clay predominates; to the north there is more sand; to the west and north-west a mixture of clay and gravel.

It is not necessary to say anything more now concerning the bodies of water in the town, than to mention that the Connecticut river forms its eastern boundary, and that Mill river runs through its western and middle portion. I do not know that the latter can be said to have any special influence in the production of disease. Taking its rise in Talcott mountain, it forms a stream of small size, soon riled by sudden and heavy rains, and from its shortness soon subsiding. Upon it and its branches there are numerous mills of different characters. The accompanying dams of course cause the water to set back for some distance, but in most instances this is but small, and generally is constantly overflowed. It might be mentioned however, that in the summer months, this stream is so poorly supplied that the mills can be operated but a part of the time, and as a consequence, even within the city, there are portions which are daily flooded and daily exposed to the influence of the sun. The exhalations are perceptible to the senses, but without being able to give any precise data upon the subject, I can not recall to mind any perceptible injurious influence originating from them. The increasing number of sewers and drains emptying into it, however, with privies immediately over its banks, would seem to demand that a quick outlet should be insisted upon for their discharge into Connecticut river.

The water of the town is usually what is called "hard," that is, it is heavily charged with different saline substances, of which those of lime may be said to predominate. A careful analysis was made of the waters of several wells, some years since by Buckland W. Hall, which showed a great difference in the solid constituents, but perhaps did not show a larger amount of organic matter than would be found in most cities. The well water is generally distasteful to those accustomed to the use of soft water, and in some instances has been known to produce nausea and vomiting, and in others purging; though only in a few very rare cases have these continued for a great length of time. The taste is very much a matter of custom; the natives generally preferring their hard water if it can be obtained

free from organic matter, whilst strangers who have drunk "soft" water, at first dislike it, but are soon accustomed to its use.

New water so heavily charged as this is known to be, might be supposed to be active in producing calculeous affections, but these diseases are very rare here or in this vicinity. What is termed "gravel," however, is not decidedly uncommon; but does not generally induce much suffering or permanent disease.

The natural advantages of the town for drainage are excellent; the rivers afford convenient places for the discharge of water and impurities, and as but a small portion of the town is an unbroken level, being divided by hills and frequent descents, brooks and gullies, a rapid discharge of rain, sewers and drains is easily afforded. With such advantages there should be no excuse for standing water, or impurities of any kind; in almost every place the descent is near, and convenient, and if there is the will, all nuisances can be easily conveyed to a distance. In the city, within a few years, much attention has been paid to sewers, and probably three and one-half miles have been constructed. These discharge into the waters near the city, and have already been of great utility. From the close and clayey nature of our soil, drainage is absolutely necessary for our buildings; most cellars that are not drained are damp, and some are periodically flooded. Hence this matter has lately been considered an important one, and in digging a cellar a drain is first to be provided. The old houses both in the city and town are not so well cared for, and it is feared that out of the city the matter is not now regarded as being one of much importance. But it is not as affording drains for buildings alone that sewers are beneficial; they are and should be outlets for the dirty water from the washroom and kitchen, barns and pig-sties; if these are not carried under ground and discharged at a distance, why they must remain in our streets, to evaporate, or be diluted by rains to run their whole length, or what is equally objectionable, to run into gardens, when the soil becomes soaked, and in the course of years charged with noxious matter. There is but one thing to be done, and that is imperatively demanded, both as affording great convenience and safety as regards health: this is a system of sewerage, extending over the whole city, and built as such works which are intended for years should be built, deep enough, large enough, and permanent in character, for present and future wants.

As all know, the Connecticut river is subject to periodical freshets, occurring in the spring, when the water rises from fifteen to twenty-

five feet above low-water mark. The meadows and low lands, north and south, are then overflowed, and sometimes remain so for three weeks. At this season, there is usually a prevalence of northerly and easterly winds, and with the dampness arising from so large a body of water, extended over so large a portion of the valley, there is a preponderance of catarrhal affections. When the freshet has continued late into May, with hot weather following its subsidence, it has appeared to me and to some of my professional brethren, that an influence has existed producing affections of the mucous membranes of the bowels, near the river.

In May, 1844, we had the highest freshet within the memory of any one now living, and although houses were rendered almost untenable for a time, and exceedingly damp and cold for many weeks, yet beyond such influences, and attacks of rheumatism, as might be expected, I do not know that it caused serious disease. In some respects it was a positive benefit, for it effectually removed all filth within its reach, and, for once in a year, certain portions of our city were rendered tolerably clean. Years ago, it was the opinion of physicians residing here, that these freshets were not injurious to health, but, on the contrary, were beneficial, by washing away impurities.

There are parts of the town certainly more unhealthy than others. Mill street and its immediate vicinity, is one; Commerce street and Front street, with the lands immediately east, are others. That there is more than the usual amount of sickness in these localities, has become well established in the opinion of physicians, and that there is more than the common proportion of deaths here, our records show. The land east of Main street, descends to the river, pretty rapidly until Front street is reached, when the descent is *very* gradual. Between Front street and the river there is, in many places, a basin, or hollow, caused by raising Commerce street, so that water has stood here longer than elsewhere, when overflowed. By the filling up of Charles street and a sewer, this has been partially remedied, and when this basin has been raised to a level with Front street, the whole vicinity will be rendered more healthy. It was in the neighborhood of Charles street that a large proportion of the cases of Cholera occurred in 1849, and typhus and other diseases of the zymotic class have been observed to be more prevalent here.

During the months of August and September last, the Asiatic

Cholera prevailed to an extent by no means great, but beyond our expectations. Although cases occurred all over the city, still the principal localities were, Albany street as far west as Chestnut street—the region in the vicinity of the Great Bridge in Commerce street—Morgan and Commerce street, Mill street, a narrow locality near Inlay's mills, and Market street, near the City Hall Market. It is not a little remarkable, that these localities were occupied by a portion of our foreign population, mostly Irish, and that among all of the deaths which occurred, amounting perhaps to eighty or ninety, or, as some think, even more, but two or three only were natives of this country. In Albany street, four died in one family; and as many, also, were attacked in one house near Inlay's mills; in Market street, seven or eight died in one house; and in one block, near the bridge, there were twelve or fifteen cases.

Now the reasons why these localities were so strongly marked above others in the city, and why this population were often seized thus—others, ought to be obvious, and it is so. The reasons are evident.

First, The tenements which they occupy, are usually old buildings, poorly constructed, badly supplied with water, and other necessaries, with small rooms, crowded with inmates far beyond any reasonable capacity.

Secondly, The social habits of the people which lead them to congregate together, with no very extensive notions of personal cleanliness, and very little idea of the necessity of cleanliness in or about the house.

Thirdly, The very imperfect drainage about their dwellings, and small privies made by landlords for the comfort of their tenants, which comforts, however, the tenants themselves very likely would set aside, so fixed are their habits and modes of living.

Any one who passes by these places, and examines their appearance, will be enabled readily to account for so much disease. When filth of all kinds is allowed to be thrown in the gutter, or street, or into back yards, to be exposed to the influence of the sun and rains, and when there are fifty people in one house, when there should only be ten, it is easy to see that disease must pretty surely follow. When we add to this an almost total disregard of caution in diet, we have reasons enough to predict where zymotic diseases will mostly prevail, and when they do prevail, will pretty surely prove to be fatal. The very fact that almost every case of Cholera in this city, the last year, occurred in these crowded and filthy localities, among a certain class

of our population, shows that the predisposing and active causes were those above mentioned, such as should not be allowed, and should be removed by proper hygienic regulations.

As early as in April last, I noticed the very filthy condition of a part of Albany street. After a rain, the water was standing in black, filthy puddles; in some places, privies and pig-sties were discharging their contents into open gutters, which slowly drained their contents, or did not drain them at all. The wash and garbage from the houses, were thrown into the street, or in yards near the houses, and as warm weather approached, the whole mass was slowly evaporated under a summer's sun. The atmosphere about these dwellings and their immediate vicinity, was sickening; a disagreeable odor was very noticeable; and the noxious exhalations fitted all who breathed them, for disease, when it should appear. This is only a fair example of other places in the city, where as prominent causes of disease existed, and where as fatal results surely followed.

The active agents then being so plain, the remedies are equally so. We must insist, as medical men, the gasoliness of the public health, that buildings should not be over-crowded, that they should be properly ventilated, and provided with necessary comforts, and that business should be preserved around them and in the streets. A proper sewerage, and abundance of water, will afford no reasons for a neglect of these duties; the time has come when we must insist that these spots upon our city shall be removed; with natural advantages for drainage beyond those of most places, there can be no excuse for the evaporation of filth in the open air, and with an abundance of water soon to be introduced, cleanliness should become, as a matter of course, one of the cardinal virtues.

Some may imagine, because I have dwelt thus much upon these points, that this city is particularly remarkable for its filthy localities. It is not so; they are to be found here, however, just as they are to be found everywhere, where a population with few ideas of neatness, are crowded together. Generally our city is remarkably healthy, and may be regarded as exempt from any prevailing special diseases. In this respect it will compare favorably with others, and proper hygienic regulations are only needed to render it second to none in New England.

Other than the above, it is not known that there are any great nuisances, or special causes of disease. The slaughter-houses are beyond the city limits, and are not known to have produced sickness. The process of tanning is but little carried on. Many years

since it was of considerable extent, and I well recollect the noisome smells that pervaded a part of Elm street, but I never heard that these were deleterious. The business of manufacturing is increasing in the town, and is now carried on to a large extent: this changes the character of the people, of course, but it is not my opinion, nor have I heard, that any occupation was thought to be specially unhealthy.

Our streets and roads are of fair width, but it would be better if they were wider: the regulation which places the width of every new street at not less than forty feet, should be changed to sixty at the least; eighty would be better. These are matters for future years, as well as the present. It is a poor economy which offers for sale fire building lots situated upon a narrow street, the lots themselves will bring an increased price if upon a fine, broad, open avenue, so that no money is lost by this operation; and further, land is not so valuable, or should not be, as to render the city more compact than it already is. But beyond this, and above this matter of dollars and cents, is its prosperity as affecting the public health; this should be paramount to all pecuniary considerations, and direct reference should be had to it in all matters of city legislation. When the air flows freely through a town, diluting and carrying away noxious matters, then there will be not only more of comfort to the inhabitants, but less of sickness also, and whatever adds to the health and comfort of a people, and correspondingly diminishes sickness and mortality, adds to their pecuniary prosperity. So well is this understood, and so thoroughly has it been elucidated by political economists, that other things being equal, those countries are considered as being most prosperous that are the most healthy. This subject of broad streets is so well understood, both as relating to the health and beauty of a city, that we find them so laid out in places just springing into existence, and in those towns where rapid growth has demanded an enlargement. Soon they will be lined with buildings, and then, more than now, the importance of broad avenues will be appreciated, as affording free circulation of air, and letting in the light of the sun. This light of the sun exercises an important influence upon our feelings and health: it is feared that it is not fully appreciated in the location of our dwellings. Of course, in a city, every one can not choose his position, but wherever this can be done, such an arrangement should be made as will give the common living rooms the full benefit of its light and heat. There is plenty of evidence, if any were wanting, to show that there is less of sickness where the sun

shines fully, as well as that the sick recover sooner when within reach of its influence.

It is a matter of congratulation that the city is soon to be supplied with an abundance of pure water, from the Connecticut. This was rendered necessary, not only by the bad condition of many wells, the water being unpleasant, but also by the salts with which it was charged, rendering it unfit for the common purposes of drinking. The cisterns for holding rain water, and with which most houses are supplied, partly remedied the difficulty, but as these were often dry, trouble and inconvenience were severely felt. The great blessing attending a beautiful supply of pure water to the whole city, will be better appreciated when our citizens become more acquainted with this luxury upon its introduction.

While cases of fever, dysentery, or other epidemic, malarial, or contagious diseases have not been infrequent, it can not be said that at any time within many years there has been an epidemic of extensive character. In the winter of 1848, '49, Erysipelas prevailed to some extent, and though of a low type, was not very fatal. In the summer and autumn of 1849, dysentery and diarrhea were quite common, and there were many deaths. It was remarked at the time, that there were a larger proportion of cases occurring on the Windsor road, than in other parts of the town. In the next year, Lord's Hill was thought to be more affected than elsewhere. The disease here was also of a low type, as has been the case whenever any epidemic has extensively prevailed. From 1840 to 1843, Scarlatina was prevalent. Measles were very common about four years since, but were not very fatal. Small Pox has prevailed at several different periods within a few years. Typhus, or the Ship Fever has occurred in many instances, almost universally among recent immigrants, and in more than one instance, is known to have attacked the same individual more than once within a few months.

Without possessing any positive data upon the subject, it has been thought that diseases of the nervous system have been on the increase for the last twenty years. We all know how uncertain are mere opinions, formed from impressions made from time to time; but the opinions of many minds, upon the same subject, after many years' observation, are very apt to be correct. The causes operating to produce some of them are obvious enough: a greater luxuriance in the modes of living; probably less exercise among the females; an increased activity of the mind from political and other excitements; a constant stream of literature of all kinds, with which

the town is flooded; highly bombed and poorly ventilated apartments, inducing languor and debility,—these are enough to account for an increase in this class of diseases.

As to the causes of any epidemics we may have had, I don't know that anything further can be said. They can not be traced to any local cause operating exclusively in this vicinity, further than has been above stated. Nor can it be said that they have generally been fatal in their character. As has been remarked, when extensive, they have usually partaken of the typhoid type.

As to conclusions and recommendations, they can be shortly stated. Those places in the town that are the lowest, and most thickly crowded, have been found to be the most unhealthy; in these the ground should be raised to carry off rapidly all surplus water, and the drains from the house; the drains in no case should be allowed to terminate in gardens or alleys, or to empty themselves into the street. Privies should be frequently emptied, and never be allowed to run over. Pig-sties should be removed beyond the city limits, for whatever assistance or accommodation the keeping of pigs may be to *us* here, the benefit is in no way counterbalanced by the injury to the many that is likely to ensue. Let every well directed effort be made to preserve neatness about them, and still they will become nuisances. If the owners are obliged to keep them clean our work, they will neglect them the next, unless the health officer constantly watches them. Drains from barns, manufactories, dwellings, and all places liable to produce noxious smells, should be conducted into the public sewers, and thus be carried beyond any point of danger.

Certain restrictions should be made as to the occupancy of one dwelling by many families. All garbage should be removed daily, and for this purpose the city should provide proper means. No standing water should be permitted in alleys, streets, or gutters. For the object of free ventilation, all streets should be wide and straight, and beyond the business parts of the city, the building-line should be some feet back of the street-line. These, and other suggestions of like character, if carried out, would improve the sanitary condition of our town, and render it still more healthy than at present.

With regard to the diseases which have occurred during the past year, Dr. Wilson has spoken so fully that it is not necessary for me to make any further remarks, and I will close by urging upon the brethren the importance of paying more attention to matters of Hygiene. To a certain extent we are conservators of the public health, and to us the public look for information. Let us be prepared

at all times to point out that which may be necessary, and to speak out boldly when the opportunity offers. Our duty is to prevent as well as to cure, and is but half fulfilled if we neglect the former.

I can not but regret that so few returns have been received from the different towns in the county. The labor occupied in making them can not be overestimated; if but little can be said, let that little be said, and let every one aid in furnishing that information, which in the aggregate will give a true account of the health of the county. Your committee regret that so little has been done, but with thanks to those gentlemen who have presented their papers, would hope for better things another year. Our profession is not behind hand in any good work, and it is believed that it is only necessary for a beginning to be made, to accomplish much that is really useful.

HARTFORD, APRIL, 1855.

Additional reports of such persons were transmitted by Dr. Griswold, of Rocky Hill, Dr. Gray, of Bloomfield, Dr. Cain, of Uxbridge, and Dr. Warner, of West-remond.

MORTUARY RECORD OF HARTFORD, FOR EIGHT YEARS, ENDING DEC. 31st, 1854.

BY MYRON N. WILSON, M. D.

	January, February, March.	Ist Quarter.	April, May, June.	2d Quarter.	July, August, September.	3d Quarter.	October, November, December.	Total.
Total.	138	175	168	165	165	165	165	1316
Males.	87	107	107	107	107	107	107	868
Females.	51	68	61	58	58	58	58	448
Sex uncertain.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Whites.	125	155	145	145	145	145	145	1205
Colored.	13	20	23	20	20	20	20	111
Widowed.	7	10	10	10	10	10	10	70
Married.	131	165	158	155	155	155	155	1245
Single.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Social condition unascertained.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Under 5 years.	20	25	25	25	25	25	25	200
5-10	10	15	15	15	15	15	15	100
10-15	5	10	10	10	10	10	10	70
15-20	5	10	10	10	10	10	10	70
20-25	5	10	10	10	10	10	10	70
25-30	5	10	10	10	10	10	10	70
30-35	5	10	10	10	10	10	10	70
35-40	5	10	10	10	10	10	10	70
40-45	5	10	10	10	10	10	10	70
45-50	5	10	10	10	10	10	10	70
50-55	5	10	10	10	10	10	10	70
55-60	5	10	10	10	10	10	10	70
60-65	5	10	10	10	10	10	10	70
65-70	5	10	10	10	10	10	10	70
70-75	5	10	10	10	10	10	10	70
75-80	5	10	10	10	10	10	10	70
80-85	5	10	10	10	10	10	10	70
85-90	5	10	10	10	10	10	10	70
90-100	5	10	10	10	10	10	10	70
100	5	10	10	10	10	10	10	70

	1842.	1843.	1844.	1845.	1846.	1847.	1848.	1849.	Total.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.
Pharynx,	1	1							2	1		2									
Pharyngitis,	18	17	10	25	17	18	5	14	117	14	16	18	13	15			4		5	8	18
Quincy,																					
Uvula &c., Diseases of,	2	1	2			1	1	1	7		2	1	1					2		2	1
Class V.																					
Diseases of Circulation.	1	1	2	1	1	2	2	6	15	4	2	2	3	1	1		2		2	2	1
Aneurism,			1						1	1											
Pericarditis,						2			2	1											
Heart &c., Diseases of,	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	10	4	2	2	1	1	1		2		2	1	2
Class VI.																					
Diseases of Digestive Organs.	6	6	6	7	8	13	11	16	79	7	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	11	16	6	6
Acidities,		2							10											2	
Colic,			2						10					1			1				
Dyspepsia,																					
Embolism,	2	1	1	1	2	1	5	4	17	4	2	1	4	3	6	1	1	2	2	1	1
Gastritis,	1	1	2				2	4	10	1	1	1	1	2				1	1	1	1
Hemorrhage,									10												
Intestinalis,						1			1												
Peritonitis,		1	1				2	4	8	1								2	1	1	1
Typhoid,			1					2	3			2						2	1		
Ulceration,		1						1	1										1	2	1
Hemorrhage,							2	1	1										1	2	1
Organs &c., Diseases of,	1	1	1	1			2	2	14										1	1	1
Stomach, &c.,																					
Dyspepsia,								2	1												
Liver &c., Diseases of,	1	1	1	2		1	1	1	7												
Spleen, &c.,						1	1		2											1	1
Class VII.																					
Diseases of Genital Organs.	1				1	2			3		1	1						1	1	1	1
Gonorrhoea,																					
Gonorrhea,																					
Organs &c., Diseases of,	1				1	2			3		1	1						1	1	1	1
Class VIII.																					
Diseases of Genital Organs.	1	1	12	8	5	5	7	2	47	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	1	2	2	1
Gonorrhoea,			6	2	2	1	2	3	14	2	1	1	2	2	1	1		1	2	1	1
Gonorrhea,	1	2	8	7	2	2	2	3	25	3	3	3	3	2	1	1		2	2	1	2
Organs &c., Diseases of,	1	1	1	1					5			1						1			1
Class IX.																					
Diseases of Locomotive System.	2	2	5		2	2	3	1	15	2	3			2	1	2	1				1
Rheumatism,	2	2	5		2	2	3	1	15	2	3			2	1	2	1				1
Diseases of Ribs,																					
" " Anchors,	1								1								1				
" " Spine,																					
" " Organs &c.,									1												

TABLE A.
Intermarriage Cases.

English.
 Foreign.
 Other.
 Number of Mar-
 riages by District.

TABLE B.
*1890 Age.*TABLE C.
External Causes.

Burns and scalds.
 Drowning.
 Diseases.
 Executions.
 Intemperance.
 Poisoning.
 Suffocation.
 Suicide.
 Hanging.
 Strangulation.

TABLE D.
*Cause not specified.*TABLE E.
1890 Age.

	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	Total	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
English.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Foreign.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Other.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Number of Mar- riages by District.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1890 Age.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
External Causes.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Burns and scalds.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Drowning.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Diseases.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Executions.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Intemperance.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Poisoning.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Suffocation.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Suicide.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Hanging.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Strangulation.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Cause not specified.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1890 Age.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

I append a few remarks, in order to call attention to some of the more important facts in the foregoing tables.

The number of each sex, thus buried in Haverford and its immediate vicinity, within the past eight years, is nearly equal. Leaving those whose sex was unascertained, out of the question, there were but twelve more males than females recorded among the deaths.

It is worthy of remark, that nearly one-third—815 out of 2,514—were under five years of age. This is a very large proportion, and it is doubtless due to the circumstances, that we have a large number of foreigners living in the city. Among the foreign population, births are more numerous than they are among natives, and the poverty and ignorance of the former render them less careful of their offspring.

Between the ages of fifty and six, there were 165 deaths, almost equal to the number of deaths in the preceding ten years, in which there were 162. From twenty to thirty, 305, and from thirty to forty, 285 died. Between the ages of forty and sixty, there were

929 deaths. During this period the mind and body become developed to their utmost capacity and vigor. It is the active, useful epoch of life, and a large mortality during this period is particularly to be lamented. It cuts off the enterprising and vigorous producer, and entails great distress on hopeless orphans, and widows, and others who are more or less dependent on husband, father and children for support. As the individual is more able during this period of vigorous life to resist malarial influences, a large mortality is an evidence that some powerful agency pernicious to health and life is in active operation. It leads us to suspect a bad sanitary condition. We usually find, under such circumstances, that zymotic diseases prevail. And as zymotic diseases are largely under the control of man, in his individual and social character, it is well for every community to consider well if they are doing all that can be done to establish wise sanitary regulations, and for individuals to consider if they are pursuing such a course as will render such regulations effective in prolonging life.

This leads us to inquire into the prevalence of zymotic diseases as an indication of our sanitary condition. Within the eight years included in this report, there were 838 deaths from zymotic—one-third of the whole number. This class of diseases prevailed particularly in 1849 and 1851. In the former of those years 171, and in the latter 163 died of zymotics. It will be remembered that during those years, epidemics prevailed generally throughout New England. In the present state of our knowledge, it would not be true to say that a community could entirely protect itself from the ravages of such wide-spread epidemics. But it is true that it is within the power of society to make such regulations, and individuals to observe the laws of health so as greatly to diminish the number of deaths from prevailing epidemics. This is made more apparent when we reflect that such disease first attacks individuals whose vital power is diminished—such, for instance, as are under the influence of irregular and pernicious habits, who undergo great fatigue of body or mind, who are usually exposed to great vicissitude of temperature and moisture, to pestilential effluvia, who have food bad in quality or defective in quantity, &c., &c. The prevalence of this class of disease in Hartford is not greater than in other cities of the same population; yet there is no doubt that the number of victims to such disease might be greatly diminished.

It will be observed, that in the third quarter of the year, the number of deaths were, by far, more numerous than in any other. There were 854 deaths, over a third of all deaths, occurred within the

three months, July, August and September. The fatal epidemics prevail more at this period than any other, which accounts for it.

Of consumption, there were 331 deaths. In February and August we had the greatest number of victims: there being 38 in each. In July, the smallest number occurred, there being only 15 recorded in that month.

It is probable that seasons of variable temperature and moisture have a larger influence in developing this disease, than this record would indicate. Consumption is a chronic disease, and when it is once fastened upon an individual, he would be less likely to expose himself to the influences of variable temperature and moisture, and his life would be more or less prolonged, according to the original vigor of the individual and the progress of the disease before he submitted to hygienic management. The months in which most consumptives die, then does not indicate the month in which most contract the disease.

Of Pneumonia, 19 occurred in March, and the same number in April. February 16, and January 14, May and December each 10. In September there were none.

The tables of moisture, and of the range of the thermometer that is herewith annexed, would not indicate that pneumonia prevailed more during a period of moisture or variable temperature than at other times. The table of moisture alluded to shows not the amount of moisture in the atmosphere, but the amount of water that fell during each month. There may be a damp atmosphere without any great fall of rain, and this is more frequently met with during the months of April, March, February and January, than in other months. In April, the thermometer shows a greater daily range, than in any other month.

On this record are found only 41 cases of still-born children. This is far below the truth. In the first four years, no record was made of still-born children, and they are far from accurate in the succeeding years.

In 202 cases of death, the cause of death was not specified. This number is large—by far too large. Yet it is encouraging to know, as we do from this table, that this defect is diminishing.

TABLE OF TEMPERATURE.*

The sum of the thermal oscillations for each month, the number of days of observation, and the mean daily variation for each month in the year, are given in this table.

	Whole sum of changes for each mo. in the year	Whole sum of changes for each mo. in the year	Whole sum of changes for each mo. in the year.	No. of days of obser- vation	Whole sum of changes for each mo. in the whole season of observation.	Mean daily va- riation of thermome- ter.
	1847.	1848.	1849.			
January,		138.12	365.74	25	728.89	29.149
February,		179.12		28	573.63	20.487
March,		445.91		29	143.80	14.958
April,	268.89	696.75		42	876.57	20.87
May,	501.14	446.50		62	1042.65	16.82
June,	628.09	476.35		68	968.72	14.113
July,	548.19	290.00		53	685.79	12.939
August,	431.86	433.82		62	522.78	11.658
September,	358.19	435.97		53	531.15	14.07
October,	524.56	432.87		62	697.77	11.254
November,	371.80	386.12		57	735.36	12.901
December,	395.97	340.94		52	651.00	12.51

The daily variation for one year, beginning on the first of January, 1848, and closing the first of January, 1849, was found to be 14.625°, and for the whole time embraced in this table, is 14.094°, differing, but (0.026) twenty-six thousandths of a degree from the whole time.

From this Table, it appears that the several months rate is fol-
lows in respect to their variability to temperature.

1. April.
2. May.
3. October.
4. June.
5. July.
6. August.
7. March.
8. September.
9. November.
10. January.
11. February.
12. December.

The first seven months of this list possess an average daily range above that of the entire year, and the remainder are more or less below.

The mean thermal oscillation for April exceeds by more than six degrees that of the entire year, while December ranges a little over four degrees below.

* This is copied from Prof. Breckinridge's report on barometric and maximum range of the thermometer, in the Proceedings of the American Association for Improvement in Science.

By dividing the year into four astronomical portions, marked by the solstices and equinoxes, and finding the mean of the oscillations of temperature belonging to each division, we obtain the following results for the year beginning the 22d of December, 1847, and ending the 22d of December, 1848.

From the winter solstice to the vernal equinox, the mean is 12.268°.
 From the vernal equinox to the summer solstice, the mean is 16.311°.
 From the summer solstice to the autumnal equinox, the mean is 14.06°.
 From the autumnal equinox to the winter solstice, the mean is 12.217°.

Throughout the range of the year, the average fluctuation of temperature is therefore greatest in the spring, least in the winter, and more in the summer than in the fall.

The most extensive diurnal variation within the period of time under review, is thirty-seven degrees and a half, and occurred on the 24th of December, 1848. On the 5th and 16th of April of the same year, the oscillations of temperature were respectively thirty-five degrees and thirty-three and a third degrees; and in three other instances only, the range of the daily temperature exceeded thirty degrees. The least daily variation took place on the 25th of September, 1848, when the difference between the maximum and minimum, amounted only to one-twentieth part of a degree.

TABLE OF MOISTURE.

	1844.	1845.	1850.	1851.	1852.	Amount only that fell in each year, for five years, 1844-1852 inclusive.
	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	
January,	2.49	5.89	5.05	2.55	5.08	17.01
February,	3.00	4.09	2.84	4.46	1.40	15.85
March,	5.12	5.60	2.71	1.78	4.05	19.27
April,	1.19	1.89	3.94	0.19	5.22	12.59
May,	5.40	4.35	7.10	4.00	4.93	22.78
June,	5.38	6.86	2.59	4.45	5.17	35.51
July,	2.85	4.89	1.89	2.12	2.67	17.13
August,	3.78	5.65	8.09	2.20	3.25	24.14
September,	1.70	2.95	4.00	1.52	1.40	14.45
October,	1.35	5.57	4.48	5.18	1.29	21.87
November,	4.00	4.51	2.32	0.94	6.78	25.60
December,	5.00	2.76	5.62	2.58	4.51	19.57
	55.94	58.84	56.74	41.89	59.55	

The average amount of water that fell in a year, was 45.77 inches. The only year that exceeded this average, was 1850, which exceeded the average by 12.37 inches.

The order in which the months stand with regard to the amount of water that fell, is as follows :

November, May, October, August, December, April, March, July, January, September, June and February.

The average amount of water that fell each month, was 18.12 inches.

In the months of November, May, October, August and December, more than the average amount fell; and in March, July, January, September, June and February, less than the average fell.

Biographical Sketches

JOHNSON C. HATCH, M. D., OF KENT.

DR. JOHNSON C. HATCH was born in Kent, Sept. 20, 1792, and died, by accidental drowning, August 24, 1854.

How brief is the record of the life of one truly eminent and good, and when eminently devoted to the ordinary duties of medical practice made still more so. Was space allowed for extended notices of the more worthy members of the society, the spontaneous result of his acromions, though of vital importance, and taking deep hold of the heart, is so devoid of incident or novelty, and in the present instance, our time and opportunity to acquire the necessary information is so limited, as to render it hardly desirable.

With such advantages for a preparatory education as were afforded by his native town, and having extended these advantages to others in the capacity of teacher, he commenced the study of medicine under the direction of Dr. Wells Beardsley, in the spring of 1815, and afterwards, with Dr. Botford, of Danbury, in Fairfield County. One summer of his pupilage was occupied in study and attendance upon Hospital practice in the city of New York. In the winter of 1818 and 1819 he attended a course of Lectures at the Medical Institution of Yale College, in New Haven, and on the termination of the course, and in accordance with the more common practice of the time, on examination, received License as Physician and Surgeon. In the spring of 1820, he entered upon the active duties of his profession in New Preston, a parish adjoining the town of Kent. After five years of successful practice, with the confidence of the community where he lived and a liberal share of patronage, and after his marriage, he again attended a course of Lectures in New Haven, and at the close received the degree of Doctor of Medicine. He then returned to New Preston, and continued in practice until

1837. Being now in wfern health, he determined upon removal to the State of Illinois, in the hope that the change incident to the removal might be the means of his recovery. In this however he was disappointed, and after two years residence in Illinois, he returned to Kent. Here he gradually recovered and with returning health resumed professional duties, and continued here in full practice, until his death.

During the whole time of his practice he was a member of the Litchfield County Medical Society and placed a high estimate upon the advantages to the profession of our organization, and contributed largely to make the social gatherings of its members in the County meetings both agreeable and useful, and in turn, so we received stronger evidence of the respect in which he was held by the society. At our time he was its President, and he was often chosen a Fellow of the Connecticut Medical Society and was an honored and useful member of our Annual Conventions. By appointment of the Convention he in 1850 delivered the annual address.

He also aided in the formation of the American Medical Association, and twice attended its meetings as a delegate from Litchfield County Society, and was "Permanent Member" of the Association.

Dr. Hatch also filled various offices of honor and trust in the towns in which he lived. He was once a member of the Legislature of the State, and a Judge of Probate for several of the last years of his life.

Perhaps the most prominent trait in the character of Dr. Hatch, was candor and the perfect truthfulness of his aims, exhibited both in conversation and action. A man in whom truly there was no guile. Another prominent characteristic was earnestness in every laudable pursuit which engaged his attention. Avoiding himself, the various artifices by which notoriety is too often unworthily sought, every attempt at deception or quackery resulting from either ignorance or more enlightened pretensions was necessarily held in perfect disgust. The earnestness and perseverance with which he sought to qualify himself for the responsible duties of his profession may be inferred from the fact, that at a time and in circumstances, when too many coast themselves to have attained to the summit of their aspirations, or are so much absorbed by the cares of a liberal occupation that they suspend their efforts for further advancement except as it is attainable by observation in a routine mode of practice, he was seeking further instruction, and in the most busy periods of his life it is believed his habits of study in connection with practice never forsook him.

An intimate associate of Dr. Hatch, by many years his junior in practice, writes me as follows: "He was my principal counselor in cases of difficulty occurring in my practice in the direction in which he lived, and I remember with gratitude and esteem the kind, candid and respectful manner in which he uniformly treated me in our professional and social intercourse;" and again: "He was a true man to his friends and true to the trust reposed in him. Kindly social in his disposition, he loved and enjoyed the society of his friends and was the life of the social circles; he was universally loved and respected while living, and the sad event which so suddenly closed his earthly career in the midst of his usefulness, spread sadness and sorrow through the community."

GEORGE SUMNER, M. D.

BY E. L. RICE, M. D.*

It has ever been the enlightened usage of civilized life, as it is the spontaneous desire of the heart, to preserve some record, more or less complete, of those who, having been distinguished for their usefulness, have ceased from their labors, and entered upon their reward.

As it is a dictate of our common humanity, it is equally so of reason, to perpetuate upon tablets, in enduring metals, upon the printed page, or in all these several methods, the recollection of great and good deeds performed, so illustrative of high character, of lofty virtue and self-devotion; that the living may behold in them and their authors, those acts and those noble mental and moral endowments, which, varied by time and circumstances, may yet enable others, and call down upon those who well perform their part upon the stage of life, the blessings of those who survive, and have been the delighted witnesses as well as the grateful recipients of their benefactions.

Animated, doubtless, by considerations like these, this Society has directed that a suitable Biography of their late associate, GEORGE

* This sketch is published as prepared for the Harvard Medical Society, by a vote of that body.

SUMNER, be prepared—and in executing this sad and truly tasking task, it shall be my earnest endeavor to present you, as nearly as possible, in the limits appropriated to that purpose, the leading and characteristic features, as illustrated in his every-day life, of our departed brother.

In doing this, however, I shall not be expected to exhibit a life, abounding in thrilling incidents or wonderful exploits; for these can never apply to that of the physician, whose chief labors, however important and exciting in themselves, are performed in the retirement of the sick chamber, and whose victories are those only, which are gained in a warfare against wretchedness and disease.

We learn from a very interesting paper, containing "Some details of personal history," &c., read by him before this Society, that Dr. Sumner was born in Portland, December 13th, 1794, and was consequently at the date of his death, a little more than sixty-one years of age.

As he graduated at Yale College at the age of nineteen, there can be little doubt, that his previous life had been that of a diligent student; giving evidence of a sound constitution, a vigorous intellect, and unexceptionable habits. From a distinguished class-mate, however, who has long held a professorship in that excellent institution, we learn definitely, what might otherwise perhaps be considered to follow only as an inference, from the fact above named.

Says the professor, "Though not a man of taste and talents as versatile as those of his roommate and fellow-student, who received the highest honors of his class, whatever he did, he did well, and as a mathematician he was regarded by the members of his division, as second only to the calculator. I think it not unlikely that, with the same effort, he might have been quite equal to him; for he always seemed to me, to master difficult points of science with uncommon ease." In regard to his social qualities, says the professor, "Those familiar with our college dialect, will understand how much was meant by the phrase, always applied to Sumner,—He is the cleverest fellow in the class." His acknowledged talents commanded the respect of all, while his freedom from excessive ambition, and his perfect exemption from those unfortunate traits which usually accompany it, such as jealousy, envy and detraction, equally won their esteem. Such are some of the memories of a fellow-student and class-mate of our late associate; and those of us whose privilege it was to enjoy a familiar acquaintance with him, will not doubt the truthfulness of his recollections. His subsequent life,

indeed, but expanded and rendered more distinct, if possible, the characteristics thus early exhibited.

After completing his collegiate course, Dr. Sumner made choice of the profession of medicine, and commenced his preparatory studies, under the direction of the late Dr. Thomas Hubbard, afterward Professor of Surgery in the medical school at New Haven, with whom he spent two years. He then proceeded to Philadelphia, at that time the seat of the best medical school in the country—universally excelled even then, by those of Great Britain and France—where he passed the two following years in pursuing the study of medicine in its various departments; taking his diploma at the University of Pennsylvania.

It will doubtless be observed by the members of this Society, that with every preparation for making rapid advancement in knowledge, Dr. Sumner spent five years—twice the time even now required at most medical schools for procuring a diploma—in preparatory studies, before taking his degree, and entering upon the practice of his profession. How much of his future reputation and success, depended upon the attainments made during this season of preparation, it may be difficult with certainty to determine;—no member of this Society, however, will for a moment doubt, that with both they had much to do; increasing and cultivating them both.

He chose the city of Providence, R. I., as his place of residence, shortly after taking his degree; but was soon called home, in consequence of the sickness of his father, whose death, after an unusually protracted illness, left the doctor more free at liberty to enter upon the practice of his profession.

He came here on the first day of January, 1813—more than thirty-six years ago, after being disappointed in finding an anticipated vacancy in a neighboring town, already occupied by a more active rival. In his own language, he "then decided to open an office in this city, and wait for business." Had we time or space for comments, a few minutes might be profitably employed, in the consideration of this sentiment. Though it leaves us to infer that then, as now, there were quite as many physicians here as the wants of the inhabitants required, it indicates a *man*, and far less common *pathos*, on the part of the candidate for practice. This doubtless, resulted from that modest estimate of himself, that freedom from excessive ambition, that respect for the rights and feelings of others, which characterized him in earlier years, and made him willing to

take, without trenching upon the field or the income of others, such a share of business only, as might naturally fall in his way.

During the period of probation, which usually awaits the young aspirant for professional practice—one ordinarily of peculiar trial to the feelings, and often to the morals—one associate illustrated the incalculable value, not only of a cultivated mind and moral morals, but also of habits trained to steady and persistent application; and at once entered upon the systematic study of botany; making it both an amusement and employment. Let us examine for a moment, some of the results of this decision. One was—and it was doubtless the object which he had primarily before his mind—to familiarize him with the physical and therapeutic properties of our indigenous plants, by which he became enabled to make a profitable use of them, not only at such times as he deemed them most appropriate, but also on occasions when, for one reason or another, other articles of the same class could not be obtained, and to advise intelligently, when consulted as to the propriety of their use; circumstances which would serve to extend his usefulness, and impress inquirers with a favorable idea of his intelligence. It was, also, the success of his undertaking the preparation of an original work as his favorite branch—a neat volume of some three hundred pages, duodecimo, handsomely bound, and beautifully, and for that day, profusely illustrated. It was a work, undoubtedly, of merit, and so much esteemed by competent judges, that the request was on many occasions made, in after years, when a full professional practice rendered it impossible to comply, that the author should revise and publish a new edition of it. A further consequence was, his appointment as Professor of Botany in Trinity College, an office which he filled for twenty years, or more; during many of which, he was accustomed to lecture on this interesting branch of collegiate study. Such were some—possibly by no means the most valuable—of the rich fruits of that precious time, devoted by him to a worthy object, instead of wasting it in idleness, dissipation, or light and trifling pursuits.

A little less than two years after commencing practice, Dr. Sumner married Miss Elizabeth Pinnas, of Brooklyn, a lady who, by her accomplishments, uniform cheerfulness, kindness of heart, good sense, and energy of character, equally secured her husband's happiness and prosperity. Says his classmate, whom I have previously quoted, "I saw Dr. Sumner at Hartford, soon after he had taken up his residence there, to practice his profession. He had recently married, and appeared exceedingly happy in his domestic

relations, and had already received tokens of respect and patronage from the citizens. I clearly remember, that my impressions, as I left him, were, that no one of our class, had entered upon the arena of life more auspiciously."

Mrs. Sumner died of apoplexy, about eleven years ago—an event which produced a profound impression—both physical and mental, upon her bereaved husband—from which he probably never recovered. It was one of the links, in a chain of morbid influences, which, united, produced the result we now so deeply deplore.

It is not to be supposed, that Dr. Sumner at any time after entering upon practice, neglected any suitable opportunity which offered, to engage in his chosen pursuit. As is true of most honorable candidates for practice, however, while at first, he found much leisure to pursue the study of those branches of science to which his tastes naturally led, he was not, probably, at any time, long without a patient in whom to exercise his skill, and familiarize himself with clinical duties; so that, at the period of his marriage, there is little doubt that he had attained a practice, extensive enough to occupy much of his time, though his income may not have been sufficient to furnish him with more than a limited support. Indeed, he made no secret of the fact, that his first years were years of restricted means, and not a little pecuniary embarrassment. As was the practice, at the time, of some other members of the profession, he added somewhat to his income, by receiving a few boarders into his family; and regretted, as he once said to a friend, that he had not longer continued to do so.

The preceding pages indicate some of the claims to public patronage, upon which Dr. Sumner could safely rely, in entering upon the more active duties of his profession. Not only—so we have seen—did he possess a decidedly superior order of intellect, *enlarged and improved*, by long, severe, and well directed study; much more than ordinary theoretical preparation for practice, habits of industry, which alone are almost a guarantee of success; but every faculty of his mind had been proportionately cultivated, and thus *useful balance*, and *symmetry* in intellectual growth secured, which were ever predominant traits of his character. Even then, he had no hobby; nor was he ever taken by a humbug, under whatever guise; nor by a superstition, however attractive or venerable. Whatever, indeed, offers itself for the consideration of a mind like his, is placed in its true and natural relations; and submitted to a calm, unadulterated, discriminating test, which ever renders its decisions, uncommonly accurate and reliable. His taste, also, for whatever was beautiful, either in

nature or art, had even then, received much culture—exhibiting itself in a fondness for landscape scenery and horticulture; expanding, at a subsequent period, into a strong relish for architecture. In the former, we learn that his tastes were early known and acknowledged; and the laying out of the grounds, the arrangement of the walks, the selection and disposal of the trees, shrubs and flowering-plants, which now render the vicinity of Trinity College so attractive and beautiful—a work mainly intrusted to him—is a proof, alike of the confidence of its trustees, and of his own ability.

His residences, where the choicest plants and flowers were always to be found in their utmost perfection, at a later day furnished abundant evidence both of his taste and skill in Horticulture. His numerous and valuable descriptive plates, well illustrate his interest in Architecture. Of these, he had several sets: the richest and most easily being those representing sixty of the finest Cathedrals, both of England and the Continent. We should naturally expect, that a mind so highly cultivated, vigorous and active, would seek, not only for information, but companionship, in books; and we find him possessed of a library, containing some three thousand volumes of choice works, both professional and miscellaneous, which he had gradually collected, as his aspirations suggested, or his necessities required. The departments of *Materia Medica*, and those relating more strictly to the practice of *Medicine*, in its several branches, as distinguished from *Surgery*, were quite full, and embraced most, if not all the best authorities in the English language, until within a recent date. In early life, both *Chemistry* and *Pharmacy* were interesting objects of pursuit, which he prosecuted with much relish, and to a greater than ordinary extent; and many valuable volumes in each of these departments, adorned his library. Many of the best and most expensive works in *Natural History*, were also there; from whose pages, he had also doubtless derived his wish. The department of *Botany*, contained the best authorities on the subject, many of them English; and procured with much pains, and at not a little expense.

Some of the most valuable standard literature, both in poetry and prose, most of it in the best editions, was also upon the shelves of his library. I discovered here also, many rare and valuable works in *Theology*, which the Doctor found time to study, both for the information they contained, and the moral benefit, he continually expected to derive. He was fond of biography, well drawn and accurate delineations of character; and while he gave little time, comparatively, to fiction,

writings, he read with much satisfaction the best authors in this field of literature. Perhaps his only habitual reading, not directly applicable to his professional pursuits, were the English periodicals, for five of the principal of which, he was long a subscriber: Blackwood, from a date as far back as 1822. He was also, during the later years of his life, a delighted reader of the London Times, Spectator and Examiner, all which with conscientious ability, and replete with useful and interesting matter. Such is a brief sketch, both of the variety and character of the works which found a place in the library of our late associate, and which we call to mind his ever-growing eagerness that he purchased only what he wished to read, and often to study, the *consul of his library*; but how true the character of the works which he owned, betoken a striking yet correct index, both of the severity of his mind, and his great industry.

In entering upon professional life, every Physician necessarily finds himself early forming relations, more or less intimate, to the brotherhood, both individually, and collectively, as in Societies and Associations. The social qualities of Dr. Sumner, at once placed him on terms of cordial good neighborhood with his professional brethren by whom he was surrounded. With some of the best minds, and highest characters among his early contemporaries, he was for years, on terms, most friendly and harmonious. Not can we doubt, from the elegant and affectionate notice which he pays to the memory of some of the themes of those noble spirits, that his own character and conduct were most favorably affected by this successful intercourse.

He well understood, and fully appreciated, the importance of medical organization; and was ever an active and valued member of our State, County and other societies. His activity, good sense, and superior attainments, early gave him influence, and in conjunction with others, enabled him to induce the Physicians throughout the State, to turn their thoughts to the subject of Insanity, and the best method of treating this malady. As the youngest member of the first committee ever formed to consider this interesting subject, he acted as Secretary; possessing information and acute information, and maintaining an extensive correspondence with the Medical Faculty, throughout the State. The result of those relations, was the founding of the Retreat, the earliest institution established in this country, for the exclusive treatment of Insanity. Not only with acceptance, but unimpairingly, and with every successive step in its growth, was Dr. Sumner identified, not more as one who took a deep and abiding interest in it, than as giving it his best thoughts,

wed much valuable time; and I have certain means of knowing, that some of its most valuable improvements were the result of his suggestions. Probably no one, after the death of its first Superintendent, was more thoroughly informed as to the public sentiment, in relation to it, better understood the peculiar wants of the institution, or was more competent to give advice, whenever it was required, than himself. Indeed, immediately on the decease of Dr. Todd, he was unanimously elected to succeed him in that responsible position. Though he declined the honor conferred upon him, he continued to take as no less lively interest in whatever related to its welfare, and was a Director and Medical Visitor at the close of his death. His genial good nature, freedom from the slightest tinge of arrogance or conceit, the pleasure he manifested in listening to the opinions of others, and the respect he ever paid to them, the gentleness with which he corrected error and sustained the right, made him eminently instrumental in maintaining harmony, and giving interest and value, to the meetings of the Societies to which he belonged. His, however, was in no respect a negative character. While exceedingly tolerant toward the opinions of others, he was by no means without opinions of his own; which he was ever ready to express and maintain, but would cheerfully relinquish, if at any time they were shown to be unsound. Though the proceedings of our State Society, furnish abundant evidence of his frequent presence and activity on committees and otherwise, it was only a few years ago, that he accepted the office of President; on retiring from which, he favored its members with an invaluable contribution, in his valedictory address, on "The Early Physicians of Connecticut." It was a production of much research, and considerable valuable time was given to investigations, and careful inquiries, in relation to it; rendering it the highest authority on the subject which constituted his theme. It recited also, from unimpaired oblivion, the names, virtues, and leading characteristics, of many noble spirits, who went before us in the same career, and which the profession should not, for its own sake, permit to be forgotten. The records of our County Society, exhibit the same activity and interest, which characterized his relations to the State Society. He became a member, at its first meeting after commencing practice here, was soon appointed Clerk, and in April, 1821, read a dissertation on "The present state of Pharmacy," and in 1826 another, entitled "Materia Medica and Botany," both showing the prevailing direction of his thoughts and professional predilections. The Hopkins Medical Association, designed to embrace

the best talent and acquisitions of the County, though a few were admitted from beyond its limits, was another, more private and select organization, with which he was connected from its origin. Its meetings were held three times weekly, usually, though not always in this city. The individual experience of the members, the discussion of some subject previously fixed upon, the reading of one or more dissertations, and concluding with a supper, constituted the ordinary routine of business. Its founders and early friends, having one by one passed away, and new members assumed them, less ambitious of importance, or rather pursuing a different method of accomplishing similar ends, the society languished, and was at length merged in another, now known as the Hartford Medical Society. With this, our lamented associate was connected, and was Chairman of the Committee which prepared the by-laws by which it is now governed. Until his failing health rendered it impossible for him to be present, he was a rare constant attendance upon its meetings, which he honored by his presence, enriched by his observations, and increased by his wisdom and experience.

He also, in part, represented our State Society, at the meeting which organized our National Association, which has already done, and is still doing, so much for the honor and usefulness of the profession. Both inclination and repeated appointments, by the State or County Societies, induced him to attend several subsequent meetings of this body. On several previous occasions, it is known that he represented our State, by appointment, at meetings called to consider subjects, regarded as of national importance to the profession.

As is but too true of physicians generally, he was little accustomed to the use of the pen. Nevertheless in the course of a long professional career circumstances at times required, that he should write considerably, and at frequent intervals, if not daily. Except as already indicated, however, it is not known that he ever engaged in writing, either for professional purposes or otherwise. His productions, both in early and in later life, were always characterized by richness and clearness of thought, and simplicity as well as brevity of language. At the same time, his style was terse and vigorous, and whatever came from his pen, was ever most welcome to his brethren.

Politically, he was neither a Whig nor a Democrat; still less did he sympathize with any of the numerous cliques and factions, into which, recently, the two great parties have become subdivided. So little was he governed in his preferences, by the leading or disjunctive principles of either, that he was not infrequently accusa-

ed to promise some one of either party, to him it mattered not which, whose predilections were strong, and who happened to be sick at the time of an exciting election, to go to the polls in his stead, and vote the ticket that his patient would have voted, had he been well. His dislike to party, originated, there is little doubt, in witnessing the tricks, shifts, and insincerities, to which leading members of each, often had recourse, without the slightest reference to honesty or the public welfare, in order to accomplish their selfish ends; finding that men were often elected to high and responsible public stations, without the first qualification for them, except party fealty. It may with truth be said, that whenever he exercised the privilege of an elector, the consideration that controlled his vote, was the relative fitness of the candidates, for the office in question. So deeply did he feel this defect in the *practical* working of our political system, that for years he was accustomed to assert that he was tired of a republican form of government. He had seen enough of it; and as his tastes were English in their finish and simplicity, so were his political preferences English; and he was rather a monarchist than a republican; would have preferred to be a subject of her Majesty the Queen, than one of the sovereigns, under the administration of President Pierce.

Of Dr. Sumner, as a practitioner of Medicine, it becomes me to speak with diffidence. You all knew him, and can far better understand and appreciate him in this aspect, than it is in my power to describe him to you. Indeed, it is a satisfaction to me to remember, that wherein my descriptions may be erroneous or defective, the promptings of your own hearts, through your thorough knowledge of him, will set him right before your minds, and make amends for whatever mistakes it may be my misfortune to commit.

It has already been shown, that his academic and professional education, had been obtained under circumstances, eminently calculated to develop, expand and discipline, the faculties of his mind, and to secure to him an unusual share of elementary knowledge; every branch of study, being systematically pursued, and thoroughly mastered. Thus prepared, it may be fairly claimed, and will be cheerfully conceded, that he brought to the investigation of disease, the powers of a strong, highly cultivated, and well-balanced mind; that he studied with scrupulously discriminative care at the bedside, the nature and cause of the maladies he was called to treat; that he formed a very reliable diagnosis, and applied his remedies with peculiar appropriateness and success. Had he possessed superior mental endowments, without the aids which education affords, to

discipline and direct their operations, he must of necessity have been constantly falling into errors, and far more likely to injure, than to benefit those who unfortunately fell into his hands. Had both of these even been united, yet without the systematic and proportionable improvement of the family, it would have formed a very different character, more bold and negative probably, but far less safe and reliable. It was unquestionably, the large and proper cultivation of his intellectual and moral powers, that gave him his pre-eminence among medical men.

There must constitute indeed, the only worthy basis of true eminence. It is self merit—merit that admits a close and searching scrutiny, into both character and conduct, that must ultimately fix the position of every man among his associates, the only competent tribunal, I may add, to which his claims can justly be brought. To this last, has it been my purpose to submit the case of our associate, and by the decision thus honorably procured, I am confident, we shall cheerfully abide. We all know, however, that neither acknowledged talents, and attainments of a high order—not even when associated with an unexceptionable character, will always procure for their possessor, that hold upon the confidence of families—of mothers and children—which is so desirable, and even necessary, to extensive usefulness and success. And it is precisely at this point, that so many, otherwise shining lights in the profession, frequently fail. They do not succeed in finding their way to the friendly and affectionate regards of those, upon whom, in seasons of sickness and distress, they are called to attend. There is a sort of partition-wall between the approving intellect, and the confiding heart, which they fail to pass; in consequence of which, the full measure of intimacy, and freedom of intercourse, which indispensably binds the patient to his physician and the physician to his patient, is unknown and unfelt.

While doubtless, Dr. Sumner might have held a high rank in the profession, had he devoted himself to some other department, than that of the practice of medicine: still it may be said, that his peculiar and crowning excellences, were exhibited in the chambers of the sick. Here, his presence was always marked by a smiling gentleness, real yet unaffected sympathy for the sufferer, well chosen expressions, a becoming cheerfulness, and unexceptionable manners. With a large heart, warmly alive to human suffering wherever found, a detector adapted to all classes, he was equally at home, and equally welcome, in the mansions of the wealthy, and the humble

dwellings of the poor—felt as deeply and as tenderly for the one as the other, and with equal alacrity ministered to their wants. None feared, but all respected, and many loved him. He was, indeed, the "beloved physician." He was, however, little in the habit of entering with much particularity, into the nature of the disease he was called to treat, nor into the expected effect of his remedies; his reply sometimes, in his own peculiar tone and manner, which never gave offence, when asked what he expected to be the effect of this or that remedy, being, "I expect it will do good." It was well understood, that he made no promises, gave no assurances, nor encouraged hopes that would not likely be fulfilled; indeed, was little disposed to indulge in prognostics, till the progress of a case rendered its probable results quite apparent to less discerning and practised observers than himself. In his immediate relations to his brethren, in his professional pursuits, for one, I can truly say, that I never knew of anything, either in manner or conduct, which the most rigid interpretation of our code of ethics would not permit; which a friendly and amiable disposition would not, indeed, suggest. I believe I knew him well; and having had no claims to his notice beyond others, nor received tokens of friendship which were not alike accorded to many others, I can but think, that my own estimate of this phase of his character, is but the measure of that placed upon it, by his every associate. On two occasions only, during an acquaintance of more than fifteen years, did I ever know any collision to occur between him and any other member of the profession; and on both, after hearing the version of each party, had not a doubt that the misunderstandings, grew out of the statements and requests of kind, but misjudging friends.

At this time Dr. Sumner commenced practice here, a severe epidemic Typhus fever prevailed, as it did also, in other parts of the State, and two distinct theories were held, as to its nature and treatment. While the disciples of Cullen and other medical authorities, pursued the antiphlogistic practice, the followers of Brown, whose speculations were not yet divested of their novelty, considered the disease to be one of mere debility, and treated it with brandy, opium and bark. The discussion of the relative merits of these methods of practice, extended from the faculty of medicine, to the public, and so far was it carried, as to disturb the relations of friendship and peace. Every man felt himself competent to decide whether his neighbors were treated properly or not; and if the physician pursued a wrong course of practice, and the case termina-

ted finally, he was pronounced guilty of homicide. When I first came to this place, says Dr. Sumner, one of the first questions asked, and it was the most common question, was, are you a blooder or stimulator? To a cautious and observing person, like himself, such a state of the professional mind and practice, would furnish much matter for reflection, and lead also, to a careful comparison of the results of the respective plans of treatment. It can scarcely be doubted, that this state of things produced a lasting impression upon his own mind, and ever afterward influenced, to a greater or less degree, his practice. Nevertheless, at the outset, he says he refused to take sides, but claimed the privilege of bleeding or stimulating as he thought best, when called to the bedside of the sick. His conclusion was, as we may safely infer from his practice, not less than his expressed opinion, that, while there was not, perhaps, so great a difference as to the mortality attending the treatment of the opposing sects, as many might suppose, the deaths were more numerous among the disciples of Bourn. Their patients, however, when they did recover, got well quickly—a circumstance which by no means demonstrates the soundness of their practice—while those who were subjected to the free use of the lancet, &c., had a longer and often trying convalescence; a mixed plan of practice, judiciously pursued, more frequently than either, saving life, and procuring a happy recovery. With abundant confidence in the remedial power of medicinal agents, Dr. Sumner employed them with freedom, though of course with discrimination and prudence. He was careful to avoid extremes. While his practice in all acute forms of disease, characterized by increased vital action, was decidedly antiphlogistic, he did not often use the lancet. He trusted more to cathartics, calomel and opium, tart. antim. et potass, &c., for the accomplishment of his object; setting them aside, as soon as a change of condition in the patient, rendered it, in his opinion, safe. If the powers of nature were equal to the task of procuring a reasonably prompt convalescence, he would leave them to perform it; otherwise aiding them, by appropriate tonic and invigorating remedies.

In the treatment of the numerous forms of nervous disease, more trying and difficult to manage, probably, than any others, Dr. Sumner was largely employed, and eminently successful. These constitute, at once the test of his ever enduring patience and amiability, the evidence of his good sense and professional knowledge, and also of that power, for which he was remarkable, of acquiring and maintaining for as long a period as was required, the friendship and

confidence of his patients. Though it is probably a fact, that physicians, as a class, devote themselves more closely to their patients than any other, it is equally true, that there is a difference among them in this respect: some taking more time than others, for relaxation and repose. Of Dr. Sumner it may truly be said, that for much the greater portion of thirty years of his professional life, his labors were almost unceasing. He rose every morning, but to repeat his round of professional duty; and never retired at night, secure of undisturbed repose. As an evidence of the little variety which, in one sense, the life of a physician affords, and also, as a proof of the correctness of the above statement, I cite the following. When the propriety of each member's furnishing a brief sketch of his life, for the use of the Society, was under consideration—some six years ago—Dr. Sumner remarked, "I can only say for myself, that I have been here for thirty years, without leaving my post during the time." Though this statement was not intended to be literally understood, it nevertheless approximates so nearly to the truth, as to require very little qualification.

Another pleasing and prominent trait in the character of our associate, which it would be wrong not to notice with some particularity, though it has often been adverted to in the course of this sketch, was his unvarying and cordial good nature. Nothing seemed to disturb the even flow of his spirits, or to produce an irritabile frame of mind. Though this resulted, in part, from his constitutional temperament, docile—an abounding charity, had much to do with the exhibition of this amiable characteristic. He had studied man—knew what was in him—and the sometimes painful and uncontrollable reactions of a disordered body, upon the mental and moral manifestations. He was, therefore, always prepared for them, no matter in what way, or under what disguises they appeared; and was never betrayed, either into harshness of language or severity of manner.

What has previously been said, anticipates, to some extent, and may be thought, indeed, to supersede the necessity of any remarks that might otherwise be deemed appropriate, relative to the extent and character of Dr. Sumner's practice. I will venture, however, to state, that he began among the poor, in the obscure quarters and suburbs of the city; attending upon them for all forms of disease, both medical and surgical; calling for assistance only when operations were required. Gradually advancing, he at length found his patients among the educated, wealthy and refined; and, subsequently, a large share of his practice was confined to this class; though he

never forgot, nor intentionally neglected his early patrons and friends. It may well be supposed, that the demands of the two, would be great, and almost incessant—by night, as well as by day. Such was the fact; and abundantly accounts for all that we now know. The tax upon his powers, steadily and continually made, year after year, was too great to be endured;—a premature old age, and a comparatively early death, were the direct and inevitable consequences.

Dr. Sumner was stout, of a lymphatic and nervous temperament, about five feet, eight inches in height; weighing not far from one hundred and sixty pounds. His head was large, and, phrenologically speaking, the faculties were all well balanced and proportioned. His features were massive, well marked, and eminently expressive of benevolence and good sense. His movements were slow, and when on foot, his gait much resembled that of a sailor, in his first walks—after a long voyage—upon shore. This is attributable, doubtless, to the fact that he usually rode; rarely testing his own powers of locomotion. The only complaint which ever fixed expression on the part of his patrons or friends was, that he was not prompt enough in responding to professional calls. If, however, he was not always prompt, he was sure to come sooner or later; for, after having begun the day, he had no repose until every engagement was attended to, every duty done. He rarely retired before eleven o'clock, and always closed the day by smoking a single cigar, and drinking a glass of wine—a limit which he never exceeded. His house was proverbially the abode of "Hospitality." His accomplished lady and lively family made welcome a host of attached friends, who enjoyed all that refined tastes, cultivated minds, and generous hearts, could bestow. Though for many years he was always occupied and weighed down with professional anxieties and cares, the doctor dearly loved the seasons given to relaxation and his family; and though moments of leisure rarely were his, at other than times required to make needed sustenance or repose, they were to him moments of exquisite enjoyment. But as in other united and happy families, changes, often sudden and unexpected, break in upon their peace, so in his, at a moment when least expected, the destroyer came, and sounds of joy and gladness gave place to lamentations and woe. To the death of Mrs. Sumner succeeded other changes, all of which but seemed to increase the contrast, already so painfully apparent. For several years previously, Dr. Sumner had experienced evidences of a gradual failure of nervous power, if not of positive disease; having, in consequence of it, been obliged to relieve himself to some extent,

of his professional engagements, and in the spring of 1850, he was induced, by the urgent solicitations of his friends, compelled, also, by his own convictions of its necessity, to make a voyage to Europe. Few, if any Americans, who have never visited the old world, had so thoroughly informed themselves as to the history of events, localities of interest, or the names and genealogy of personages of distinction, both in Church and State, as Dr. Sumner; and he unquestionably saw more, and enjoyed more, and acquired a greater amount of accurate information, in consequence of this peculiar fitness, than most do or can, from a much more extended, and equally favorable opportunity. He spent some months abroad, chiefly in England, and returned in the fall, greatly refreshed, if not essentially improved. He at once entered again upon his former labors, and though he endeavored to save himself, and for the most part declined all night engagements, it was too soon perceived by his friends, that his constitutional powers were failing; probably beyond repair. His mind was at times clouded, his tongue with difficulty performed its office; his limbs were weak, and his gait unsteady. From time to time, indeed, he suffered from attacks resembling paralysis; but gradually recovered the use of the parts involved in the seizure; yet was left by each, with less of vital energy and strength, than he previously enjoyed. But so long as it was in his power to get into and out of his carriage, and the weather was not unfavorable, he continued to be seen in the streets, slowly driving about, cheerfully, though faintly, acknowledging the recognitions of his friends, and protected by his overcoat, which he wore during all but the warmest days of July and August. As the cool weather of autumn approached, both inclination and the state of his health, induced him to seek for the quiet, and cheering warmth of his chamber; and during the fall of 1853, it may be said that the period of his active labors was brought to a close. Free from suffering, with a mind still capable of moderate exercise and enjoyment, with but occasional interruptions by returns of his former attacks, he spent the winter following, rather pleasantly than otherwise; reading himself, or listening to the reading of others, as suited his fancy at the time; keeping himself fully informed on all public matters, by reading the daily papers, and receiving the frequent calls of his many sympathizing friends.

Though the confinement of the winter, in connection with the steady, but slow advance of his disease, had diminished the little strength which he previously possessed, the warmth and brilliancy of

the returning spring of 1854, inspired him with the desire and resolution to attempt once more to get abroad; and on several occasions during the ensuing summer, he rode out and visited those parts of the city where public improvements were in progress;—the Retreat, Asylum, &c. But increasing weakness, which had already, for the past year, long confined him to his bed, and the advancing season, again closed upon him the doors of his chamber, which he was never again to leave. During the autumn, his strength was greatly reduced by a severe, but short attack of diarrhea; and, as he said to a friend afterward, he found it much easier to lose strength than to regain it. Some weeks before his death, a frightful attack of cerebral congestion occurred, which it was thought by all, would speedily put an end to his life; but, most unexpectedly, he gradually recovered the use of his reason, and lived, only to drag out a brief period of existence, which a nervous system, rendered successively susceptible by long confinement, and aggravated by extensive bed sores, made one of agony; being finally released from his sufferings, early on the morning of February 20th, 1855.

During the whole of his protracted and peculiarly trying illness, the same serene cheerfulness which characterized him in health, continued;—no annoyances were heard, no irritability exhibited. His simple, yet unshaken faith in the promises of the Gospel, his reliance upon the merits of the Redeemer for Salvation, and his trust in a risen Saviour, were during life his comfort, and in the last, constituted his support. Without the slightest ostentation, or pretense to unusual sanctity, no disciple was more devout and conscientious, none loved his church and its ordinances with a warmer or more tender love; nor did any hold more frequent or delighted intercourse with his fellow-Christians and the clergy. With all this, his spirit was eminently liberal and catholic. He would oblige no one to entertain a like belief with himself, nor doubt either the necessity or glory of those who might worship the same God, under other forms, or other creeds. The funeral ceremonies were performed at Christ Church, on the afternoon of the 22d of February;—and a house filled in its every part, the profound and solemn stillness that prevailed throughout the service, and the crowd that followed his remains to the grave, and saw them deposited in their last resting-place, attested the public grief for his loss, and the respect entertained for the memory of the departed.

You have here presented to you, gentlemen, in a plain, and I hope faithful sketch, however imperfectly drawn, and unworthy of the

theme which I have undertaken—an outline of the life of our late associate. It is for each of us to decide for himself, what lesson he will learn from it, what benefit he will strive to secure, what stimulus it shall give to high and honorable purposes. To have enjoyed the blessing of so bright an example, is not without its responsibilities. The character and conduct are both affected, whether we will it or not by the moral atmosphere in which we live, and the good which we accept or refuse.

The season of preparation for professional practice has indeed passed, beyond recall; yet if in any case, that opportunity has been neglected, or but partially improved, there is much precious time still remaining, which faithfully and advantageously employed, may enable us to make up for many and great deficiencies. We can here safely recur to the example of our subject, in proof of the value of time well spent, of effort judiciously and perseveringly made. We learn also, that it was a life-long devotion to study and good works, that gave him the position he occupied. He continually availed himself of those opportunities, ever presenting themselves to all of us, which offered, for benefiting others as well as himself; at once encouraging every benevolent tendency of his nature, and counteracting that selfishness, which finds a lodgment, and often a soil too well suited to its growth, in every breast. He was also, an active member of those medical organizations to which he belonged, a field in which, even our personal experiences teach us, much may be done for our own, and others' good. Though occupied with his profession, beyond most men, he still found time to read, and to study, not merely what high professional aims, and the progress of knowledge demanded, but much sound and useful matter of a somewhat miscellaneous character, which gave a symmetry and finish to his mind and character, which he might not otherwise have possessed; increasing his usefulness, and adding charms to his intercourse with general society. We are further taught by this precious example, the worth of simple, yet cultivated manners and goodness of heart. Though the former is alone an acquired excellence, no one can claim entire exemption from the responsibilities that flow from the possession of the other.

There is implanted in every human being, more or less susceptibility to suffering, whatever form it may take, or from whatever cause arise. Add to this, high moral and religious principles, and it secures to its possessor, all of this quality or attribute in its most reliable form, that can be useful, or perhaps desired. The two admirably blended in the every day-life of our late associate; both

indeed, in an eminent degree, yet by no means to such an extent, as to discourage imitation, or render its attempt useless or unprofitable.

Truly, in whatever aspect we regard the life of our departed brother, and hence its peculiar value to us, we find everything so imitate, yet nothing inimitable. Shall we not therefore study it, and practice upon its teachings, so as to make up to ourselves, so far as possible, the great loss, otherwise irreparable, we have sustained in his death.

Registration the Basis of Sanitary Reform.

BY STEPHEN C. HARRIS, M. D., NEW HAVEN.

WHILE it is the peculiar office of physicians to cure disease and alleviate human suffering, it is highly appropriate that, as a class and as individuals, we should be identified with every movement having for its object, the *prevention of disease* and the *promotion of longevity*.

With this view, Mr. President and Gentlemen, I propose to remark briefly, on the rise and progress of the great Sanitary Reform, which, although foreshadowed centuries ago, has only within a very few years received the legislative aid necessary to insure its more general adoption; but more particularly of Registration, the basis of that reform.

The preservation of the public health has from the earliest periods received the attention of physicians, philosophers, and statesmen; and did time permit, it would be interesting to trace the course of this movement—keeping pace with advancing civilization—as it shows itself in the laws revealed to the Jews, enforcing cleanliness—purification—protection from contagious diseases, and the general preservation of health; and in the legislation of Greece, where no city was without its health officer, and Epaminondas, Demosthenes, and Plutarch served in that capacity; or in the history of ancient Rome, where we find the most extensive, and sagacious plans were in operation, for ventilation, sewerage, and an abundant supply of water.

Indeed, it is easy to see from collections of Roman antiquities, that the laws for the protection of health in that city, were of a very radical, and *peremptory* character, and were executed with a degree of vigor and impartiality almost unknown to us; and it is to this vigilant forethought that, in the absence of other organizing agen-

cies discovered only in later times, we may attribute the success with which that remarkable people preserved social order, through so dense and vast a mass of human beings.

What was previously known of the science of public health, however, perished in the general wreck of civilization which followed the invasion of the barbarians; and it does not appear that any sanitary regulations whatever, existed from the seventh to the fourteenth century. In those dark ages, the people lived without law of any kind, and consequently frightful epidemics often desolated the land.

In 1550, King James 2nd of France, turned his attention to this subject, and established an ordinance which has been considered the commencement of Sanitary Reform; but it went little farther than to prohibit the keeping of swine in cities, and regulate the sale of meats and fish—and for nearly two hundred years the only attention the subject received, was to remove from cities some offensive manufactures. During the early part of the sixteenth century it became apparent, that the first step toward a radical improvement in the physical condition of a nation, and the enactment of laws tending to increase the average duration of life, was a collection of its vital statistics.

"That upon the circumstances connected with the three important eras of existence, birth, marriage and death, depended to a very great extent, the physical, moral and civil condition of the human family.

"And that a knowledge of the circumstances is necessary for a full comprehension of important means for the certain advancement of the population of states in health, prosperity and civilization."

The conviction of these truths, led to the establishment at Geneva, in 1549, of the first system of registration of births, marriages and deaths. The result was, the discovery of *such* an alarming state of facts concerning the low value of life in that city, as led to the enactment of wise sanitary regulations, which have been amended and enforced through a long series of years. As a consequence, the mean duration of life increased more than *five times* from 1550 to 1855; and with the increase of population, and *more* prolonged duration of life, happiness and prosperity were promoted: although with advanced prosperity, marriages became fewer and later, and thus the number of births was reduced, a greater number of infants born were preserved, and the number of adults with whom lies the strength and greatness of the state, became larger.

"Toward the close of the seventeenth century, the probable duration of life was not twenty years; at the close of the eighteenth century it reached to thirty-two years; and now it is more than forty-five years, while the real productive power of the population has increased in much greater proportion than its increase in numbers."

The registers there, as in many of the cities of France, are viewed as pre-appointed evidences of civil rights; and now, no person can inherit property, administer upon the estate of a deceased person, or marry, without exhibiting from these records, his right to do so.

In Prussia and the German states these measures are attended to with great exactness. Every fact appertaining to the health, lives and condition of the inhabitants, is carefully collated and published for the benefit of the people. In nearly all the European states besides those mentioned, facts in connection with this subject are registered and collected in the most scientific and systematic manner. And to use the language of a distinguished American,—

"Whatever our Americans may say to the contrary, the average longevity in many places where these measures have been in operation, appears greater than with us. Indeed, we have no little reason to fear that, unless something is done to arrest the progress and pressure of the causes of mortality in this country, we shall be in danger of possessing only a very young and immature population."

"The average age at death in many of our large cities so far as returns enable it to be shown, is under twenty years—a fact which can only be due to the unfavorable physical circumstances of the people, and their ignorance of the true means of living, and avoiding disease."

In England, the public attention was awakened to this subject about thirty years ago, by an able article in the Westminster Review on "the causes of sickness and mortality," by Edwin Chadwick, Esq., at that time a young barrister in London, and to whom more than to any other the cause is indebted—and whose name should be handed down to posterity as one of the great reformers of his age.

Dr. T. Southwood Smith, with whose work on Fever we are all familiar, is another individual who has been prominent in all the sanitary movements in England, and to whom the world is greatly indebted for his active efforts in this direction. These gentlemen have been frequently called by parliament to serve with others on various commissions of inquiry concerning the several branches of

Hygienic reform, particularly in regard to their pauper system. One of their reports shows that one-fourth of all their pauperism is the result of preventable disease.

The registration act of England, after which all similar laws in the United States have been more or less closely copied, was introduced in parliament by Lord John Russell, and went into operation July 1, 1837.

Says a writer in the *London Lancet*,

"This was the most important sanitary measure ever adopted in England. Before that time a perfect chaos respecting population and mortality, reigned. Since then, a mass of statistics, relating to life, health and disease has been accumulating, which will exert, and is exerting an immensely beneficial influence upon the physical and moral welfare of these realms, and indeed ultimately upon every people on the face of the globe."

"The discoveries of Astronomy have not a more palpable application to navigation and commerce, nor the investigations in Chemistry to manufactures, than have the statistics of health and disease to physical and moral regeneration."

This prophecy is now in process of fulfillment: the influence of this movement has reached our own shores, and in several of the States has led to the establishment of systems of registration on a similar plan.

To Massachusetts belongs the honor of taking the lead among the States, in the march of sanitary reform, at the instigation of a distinguished statistician of Boston, Lemuel Shattuck, Esq., to whose reports and correspondence I am indebted for many valuable facts. Responding to the call of the Massachusetts Medical Society, the legislature in 1842, enacted a registration law, which has been from time to time amended, as experience of its practical workings indicated, until it has been brought to a good degree of perfection and efficiency.

New York soon passed a similar law, and was followed in 1852, by Rhode Island, New Jersey and Kentucky, in all of which States annual reports have since been published.

In the Connecticut colony, the first registration act was passed in 1644. On the third of June, it was "Ordered, that the Towns Clerks or Registers in the severall Townes within this Jurisdiction, shall each of them keepe a record of the day of marriage of every p'son hereafter married w^{thin} their libertyes, and of the day of the birth of every child hereafter borne, to w^{ith} the parent of the child

shall within three days after the birth of his child certify the day of the child's birth, and so who every man that shall be married shall within three days after his marriage certify his marriage day, under the penalty of 5s. every default. The said Register is to receive vid. for recording the day of marriage & ad. for recording the birth of the child."

In the laws as subsequently collated—it was required that "every new married man shall likewise bring in a certificate of his Marriage, under the hand of the *Magistrate* w^h married him, to the said Register." "If any person shall neglect to bring in a mate or certificate as aforesaid, together with three pence a name, to the said Register, for all Births and Deaths—and six pence for each marriage, to be returned, twice than one month after such Birth, Death or Marriage, shall forfeit for every default *five shillings*, and the penalty further increased upon longer neglect, according to the judgment of the Court;" and the Register was required to send to the Secretary of the Court an annual transcript, together with a *third part of the fees*, under the penalty of forty shillings for every neglect. A similar record was commenced at New Haven in the following year, and both were continued until the opening of the Revolution.

Although these records were very imperfect, and contained barely the names of persons who died, were married, or born, they have proved of great value in tracing genealogies, and titles to property; and there is some reason to believe that the returns such as they were, were more promptly made than they are at present.

The Registration law now in operation in this State is in the main excellent; and if universally complied with, would develop a mass of valuable facts which could not fail of exerting a great and lasting influence on our prosperity.

It is intended to accomplish two great objects—

First. To preserve the name, and afford the means of identifying the conventional, and true facts concerning the personal history of every person who is born, marries, or dies in the community.

Second. To determine how health, life and longevity are affected by age, sex, condition and occupation; by climate, season and place of residence; and by the diseases to which under any circumstances man may be subject.

To accomplish the first object, certificates of birth should in all cases state the maiden name of the mother—the nationality of both parents, and as children are often not named when the return is made, it should state the number of the child—whether first, or second, &c., in addition to those items now required.

Marriage certificates should also state in addition the *names and residence of the parents of both parties*, and the names of witnesses.

Certificates of deaths should also state in addition, the *names of the parents of the deceased*, and their nationality. In order to determine identity, it is necessary that these, and all the facts now required, should be recorded with exactness. Physicians in too many cases, omit one or more of these facts, without reflection that perhaps the very one which they consider of no little consequence, may be hereafter of the first importance to that individual or his friends, to say nothing of the loss which science sustains in the omission of a fact.

Records of this kind are of great importance in the various civil relations of society; and will secure to all classes numerous legal rights. It is useful to all persons, and to some it is of the greatest importance, to be able to prove in a legal way, their age and place of birth; and equally important is the *day of death*, and the particulars of the marriage contract.

Who does not know of individuals who have failed to obtain their rights of property, or have suffered in reputation, for the want of such legal proof of events and identity, as this law purports to furnish?

A family once resident in New Haven, the undoubted heirs by the mother's side of a princely fortune in England, failed to receive it, for the reason that a single fact was wanting to complete the chain of evidence otherwise conclusive; and it is well known that millions of property in England, rightfully belonging to parties in this country, have been forfeited to the British Crown, because no legal record of Births, Marriages and Deaths had been kept.

The widow of the late Dr. Dwight, President of Yale College, was for many years unable to procure the pension to which her husband's services in the army of the Revolution entitled her, for the reason that she had no proof of her marriage, no record having been made, and the witnesses being dead; she finally obtained it, however, through the aid of Joel R. Poinsett, while Secretary of War. He ordered it to be granted, on the ground that it was not to be supposed that so wise and good a man as his old and venerated instructor, would have lived all his life with a woman who was not his wife. How many families in this State would have been made glad, or have been saved from expensive litigation and pecuniary ruin, had such a plan of registration been faithfully carried out.

The records kept in New Haven have been repeatedly brought into requisition within two years, as legal evidence in suits affecting

the social rights of individuals. Copies have been required in order to settle estates in England, Germany, Cuba, New York and Massachusetts, besides for other purposes within this State; and I presume similar facts are known in other parts of the State. So far as my observation extends, the law is increasingly popular with the more intelligent portions of every community, who justly regard it as capable of conferring upon the State, numerous benefits, the importance of which can not be estimated.

To accomplish the second object, the record should show a class of facts different from those necessary to prove identity, though in some particulars they are the same; but as these are all included in the present law, I need not mention them here, except to remark that the attending physician should in all cases be useful to state in a certificate of birth, the age of the parents, which may still to do; this appears at first but a trifling matter, yet in future years such facts will prove of great service in determining the laws of population.

We shall know by these means what is the proportion of births and deaths among our foreign population, an item at present of peculiar interest; also of what diseases the foreign born and their children die. Forming as they do everywhere, a large and increasing element in our population, frequently bringing with them the seeds of disease and death, this becomes a matter of serious import.

The register in New Haven exhibits the fact, I believe, that a majority of the children who die there, are of foreign parentage, and that of these the larger part die between three and five years of age. If this statement is correct, and should be corroborated in the other large towns—the principal foci of the foreign population—it would be an interesting and useful fact. It is easy to see that by the accumulation of facts, Registration will lead to the adoption of such measures as will aid in the diminution of sickness—(and one-half of all that occurs, is believed to be unnecessary and preventable)—in the security of life—in the improvement of the general physical condition of the people, and in promoting their greatest happiness.

Among the other important considerations connected with this subject, is its bearing on Life Insurance.

It was long ago ascertained in Europe, that the reproduction, the life, the sickness and death of man, are regulated by certain fixed and natural laws, which vary, of course, according to the individual, and the circumstances by which he is surrounded. These laws have not yet been investigated in their application to man in the circum-

stances in which he is placed in this country—neither can it be done in the present state of knowledge on this subject.

It is evident, however, that many facts exist, which render the operation of these laws peculiar to ourselves; and it is highly desirable, on this account also, that a system of registration of human life, by which they may be obtained, should be faithfully carried into operation.

Life Insurance, as common in England as insurance on property, is becoming a very important interest in this country; and it has always been regretted that insurance companies are obliged to base all their operations on either the Carlisle or other tables of mortality, prepared in England many years ago, and which never afforded an adequate estimate of the probabilities of life on this continent.

“Such records would enable us to construct tables of mortality, containing an invaluable fund of statistical information, showing the various influences in operation among us, which tend to increase or diminish our population, the comparative value of life among males and females, and of persons existing under different circumstances and conditions; the comparative prevalence of health and disease and of death, in the different seasons of the year, in different localities, and in the different periods of life.”

Until we have such a class of facts, we can not know the wants of our population—nor tell where to apply remedies in order to ameliorate their condition—to improve the general health of the community—promote the security of life, and add to the number of its years. At present, our exertions must be influenced by, and be made upon, comparatively uncertain theory and conjecture; and of course may produce erroneous results.

Registration has developed some interesting facts of a more strictly sanitary character. In England, it has been found that in those rural districts in which under-drainage had been within a few years generally adopted, the number of deaths has much diminished, while the cases of sickness were fewer and shorter; and in the large towns the difference between the ratio of deaths in the undrained, crowded localities, and the better portions of the cities, was very striking. In the report of Mr. Glover, superintending medical inspector of the London Board of Health, on the common and model lodging-houses of London, (with reference to epidemic cholera in 1854,) it is stated that in 1853, there were registered houses of this kind, accommodating about 36,000 persons, yet, during the year, only ten cases of fever occurred. Considering the class of persons inhabiting these

houses, it must be acknowledged that three cases of fever in every 10,000 of such persons, is an almost incredible amount of sickness of this character. "In all the houses registered and unregistered, there were in the first nine months of last year, 72 cases of cholera, and 61 deaths, an amount of sickness, all things considered, astonishingly small." "With respect to the health of the inmates of the model lodging-houses, it appears from the various reports, that these houses have enjoyed all but a complete exemption from the cholera, the mortality among the inmates having been only in the ratio of about 26 in 10,000, whereas the mortality, from cholera, in the pateries, Kensington, was in the ratio of 234 in every 10,000; and in Bermondsey, 142 in 10,000."

In a comparison of the bills of mortality in London, with those of Boston, which has always been cited as a model city for cleanliness and sobriety, we find a remarkable coincidence. In London, 32 per cent. of the deaths are those of children under five years of age; the average age of all, at death, is twenty-six and a half years—and the annual rate of mortality for the whole population, is 1 in 40.

"In Boston, from 1840 to 1845, 66.02 per cent. of all the deaths were those of children under five years of age; and in some classes of the population, more than 62 per cent. were under that age; the average age of all that died in the same period, was 21.43 years, and of the Catholic burials, 15.45 years only. The rate of mortality for the whole population for the last nine years, was 1 in 39—and for the last year, (1849,) 1 in 26." Showing that London, with its two millions of people, supplied with water from the Thames, into which the enormous accumulation of waste and dead animal and vegetable matter—the blood and offal of slaughter-houses—the drainage from dye-works, bone-boiling houses—and a thousand countless pollutions, all find their way,—with its crowded streets and graveyards, its foul cess-pools and hopeless pauperism, is as healthy a city as Boston, and in some respects, more so.

Some of our other cities suffer still more by the comparison. The annual average mortality for the last eight years, was

In Philadelphia, 1 death in 42 inhabitants.			
- Boston,	1	-	39
- Baltimore,	1	-	36
- Chicago,	1	-	23
- New York,	1	-	25

Last year, the average ratio of deaths in Chicago, was 1 in 18.3 of the population.

The high ratio in the two latter cities, is owing entirely to the larger proportion of immigrants constantly arriving there; while in Chicago full one-half the entire population are foreign born, and there is always present a floating population of several thousands, many of whom are yet suffering from the debilitating effects of a long voyage, and destitute of every comfort and convenience of life.

Doubtless, among the principal reasons for the large mortality in this country, may be mentioned the great and frequent changes of temperature at all seasons; the intense and prolonged heat of summer, favoring rapid decomposition, and causing diseases of the bowels, as diarrhoea, dysentery, cholera, &c.; the excitable and restless state of our population, containing a large proportion of foreigners, among whom affections of the bowels and lungs seem to be particularly fatal. It is to be expected then, that the deaths in proportion to the population would be more numerous, and the average age at death lower, than in the slow-going population, and more equable, temperate climates of the old world.

Says Mr. Chadwick, "The average age of the whole of the living living population in America, so far as it can be deduced from the census returns, is only 22 years and 2 months. Notwithstanding the earlier marriages, and the extent of emigration, and the general increase of population, the whole circumstances appear to me to prove this to be the case of a population, depressed to this low age, chiefly by the greater proportionate pressure of the causes of disease and premature mortality. The proportionate numbers at each interval of age in every 10,000 of the population of the United States, England and Wales, are as follows:

	United States.	England and Wales.
Under 5 years,	1,744	1,524
5 and under 10,	1,417	1,197
10 " 15,	1,210	1,089
15 " 20,	1,091	997
20 " 30,	1,816	1,780
30 " 40,	1,160	1,289
40 " 50,	732	959
50 " 60,	493	645
60 " 70,	245	440
70 " 80,	113	216
80 " 90,	32	59
90 and upward,	4	5
Average age of all living,	22 yrs. and 2 mo.	26 yrs. and 7 mo.*

"It may be observed," he adds, "that while in England there are 5,025 persons between 15 and 50, who have 3,610 children, or persons under 15; in America there are 4,782 persons living, between 15 and 50 years of age, who have 4,271 children dependent upon them.

"In England, there are in every 10,000 persons, 1,365 who have obtained over 50 years experience; in America, there are only 850.

"The moral consequences of the predominance of the young and passionate in the American community, are attested by observers to be such as have already been described in the General Sanitary Report, as characteristic of those crowded, filthy, and badly administered districts of England, where the average duration of life is short; the proportion of the very young great, and the adult generation transient. The adult population in America, it has been shown, is younger than in England, and if the causes of early death were to remain the same, it may be confidently predicted that the American population would remain young for centuries."

	11.	12.
"The average age of all alive above 15, in America, is	33	8
The average age of all alive above 15, in England & Wales, is	37	5
The average age of all above 20 years, in America, is	37	7
In the whole of England, the average of all above 20 years, is	41	1"

These statements are important, and coming from a man so eminent for the ability and knowledge he has displayed on this subject, deserve serious consideration.

It is the prevailing opinion among us, that no people in the world are more healthy than ourselves; but if the above statements are true, this opinion is erroneous.

In one of the Massachusetts Reports, is a compilation showing the mean duration of life in several places in Europe; also in Massachusetts. From this it appears, that while a child has a chance of living 45 years in Surrey, (one of the healthiest districts in England,) it has a chance of living only 25 years in Liverpool, and 28.15 years in Massachusetts—showing a difference between the two first of 19.6 years—in other words, life is but five-ninths so long in Liverpool, as in Surrey. Yet, before the facts developed by the Registration system were known, it was asserted by one of the most accurate writers in England, that the great increase in the town of Liverpool, was owing to the salubrity of the air, and the progressive improvement in trade, commerce, and steam navigation.

If the above statement as to the mean duration of life in Massachusetts be correct, (which is doubtful,) it is as unhealthy as Liver-

pool and the most unhealthy districts of England. Facts as interesting and important, may yet be developed in this State, in relation to our own towns and villages. We are becoming largely a manufacturing people, and take pains to ascertain the exact cost of every article made, in all its different parts, and its cost of transportation; yet we know nothing of the cost of life involved in its production.

We know not, yet we ought to know, what is the difference in the value of life in our cities, and country districts—or the sea-side—and in the mountains; among different occupations and classes of persons; and in what particular localities certain diseases, as consumption, scrofula, dysentery and typhus fever, are most frequent.

Registration affords the only means of determining these questions; and the materials for a complete history of the epidemics of the State can be procured in no other way. We have seen the great advantages and necessity of such a system, in proving individual identity—in securing the rights of property by inheritance—and in protecting public health and public rights. It will enable us to deduce the laws of "mortality and population which are peculiar to ourselves, while it will afford us the means to devise new measures for the prevention of unnecessary sickness and premature decay."

It is to be expected that any registration law sufficiently stringent to be of service, will encounter objections and opposition; obstacles of this kind attend the inauguration of every new measure, however humane and useful its provisions may be. We should not be surprised then to hear, as we do, that "this measure interferes with private matters." "If a child is born—if a marriage takes place—or a person dies in my house," says one, "what business is it to the public? these are private matters."

The man who reasons thus, has but a limited conception of the obligations he owes to himself and to the public. He can not if he would, cut himself entirely loose from every other person, but has while living in families and communities, a direct or indirect interest in each of them. "Every birth, marriage, or death, which takes place has an influence somewhere—perhaps set upon you or me now, but it has upon others, and may hereafter have upon us."

Says a recent writer on this subject,—

"In the great and frequent changes in the affairs of life, it is impossible to predict, which shall prosper—this or that; whether I shall be a pauper, or have to contribute to support my neighbor as a pauper; whether I shall inherit his property, or he inherit mine; and every person should not only be willing, but desirous to place

within the reach of every other, the fact that he has existed, and the means of identification."

Parents should not fail to do this for their children, and in all cases should see that their births are properly recorded; interests of great moment frequently depend upon it, and it is not of less consequence that the boundaries of their real estate be duly recorded, than that the time, place, and circumstances of their children's births be verified beyond question.

It has been shown, that a well organized system of registration is among the first wants of every enlightened people, and is capable of contributing largely to the amelioration of the physical and moral condition of communities. But in order to do this, it must receive the hearty support and cooperation of all educated men, of whatever calling in society, who give tone to public sentiment. It appeals to them, as being in some degree responsible for the success or failure of this very desirable reform movement.

This subject appeals to *clergymen*, as to those who are directly interested. By a recent change in the law, their duties under it are better defined, and rendered less onerous, relieving them of much which they considered of too particular and delicate a nature for them to attempt; this was doubtless the reason that in making their returns of marriages, they more frequently honored the law "in its breach than in its observance."

Their education and habits of mind should lead them to a full investigation of the subject; and their frequent opportunities both public and private, will enable them to do very much to enlighten the public mind, in regard to the great benefits, both present and prospective, which must necessarily result from its full development.

To the physicians of the State, however, it appeals *by right*, by the aid and countenance which no others can give—and it relies for its efficiency and usefulness, on no more than on all the community beside—and without our cooperation it must fail.

The law was enacted by the legislature in the request of this society, and after full representations and arduous efforts of your committees, during two successive sessions; and are we not bound to use all our influence to cause the law to be respected and enforced?

Who so capable of furnishing the needed facts in relation to births and deaths, with least trouble and variable exactness, as the attending physician? Who can better appreciate the advantages of registration, or more successfully advocate its claims upon public attention, than those to whom the community commits the care of its health,

and whom it will hold responsible for any neglect of, or indifference to its sanitary interests?

Let us then, not hold ourselves aloof from a public measure which promises so much for the amelioration of our physical condition, and the promotion of our best interest and happiness.

We are accustomed to think that as a class, we perform a larger amount of unpaid labor, than all others combined. I admit that it is so, and it is one of the bright honors of our profession, that we are "instant in season and out of season," in relieving the sick and suffering, and in helping forward every good work.

It is possible perhaps, that in the minds of some of you there still lingers a prejudice against the whole subject of vital statistics; and perhaps a few may seek to excuse themselves from their duty in making regular and prompt returns as the law requires, by saying that the government can not rightfully demand of one class, or individuals, a service to the public without compensation. After diligent inquiry, I am happy to state that the number of regular physicians who make this objection to the law, and openly avow it, is exceedingly small. These surely forget the numerous instances in which individuals are required to make sacrifices of time and labor for the public good—to promote the ends of justice and contribute to the common defense.

They forget, that this trifling duty is the only tax which the State has imposed upon physicians, as such, while in some States, a license to practice has to be purchased, and yearly renewed, after payment of a money tax, and the inscription of the name and address.

In England, registration has become the great idea of the age, and the profession there, has cheerfully contributed to its success by an immense amount of unpaid labor; thereby creating for itself an imperishable monument, and furnishing to their brethren everywhere, an example worthy of imitation. In Massachusetts, the profession is actively alive to its importance, and united in effort to provide for that State the benefits of a general sanitary reform.

It is feared, that some of us withhold *any* compliance with the law, or yield it reluctantly, because it is not yet *quite* all we could wish—or all we think it should have been at first—or because it subjects us to some inconvenience and annoyance.

The law is to be sure still imperfect in several points, particularly in the fallacies of the details to be recorded—the mode of their collection—and the penalties for non-compliance. In most of its features however, it can not well be improved; with the exception of New

Haven, there is some difficulty in procuring the return of certificates of death, by the attending physicians, who seem to imagine that they will be looked upon as evidences of their want of skill, rather than as a measure of the extent of their practice. In this city, this difficulty does not exist, for the reason that we have a city law which provides that no burial shall take place, until the certificate of death is in the hands of the Sexton. It is believed that, were a similar provision added to our statute, and one requiring towns to appoint sextons where there are none, the law would everywhere meet with the same favor, and work with as little friction as in New Haven.

But frequent change in the law is undesirable, for many reasons: the public confidence in its value would be impaired, and anything like uniformity in the records would be impossible. It is very desirable that registration laws, should as far as practicable, be uniform throughout the different States; and at the late meeting of the American Medical Association, a committee of one from each State was appointed, to procure the passage of a uniform law in all the States. It is of more consequence that a *few facts* be recorded, concerning each birth, death and marriage in the State, than to multiply the number of facts required, without providing adequate means to insure their regular return.

But do not on these accounts, gentlemen, withhold from it your support, and by your indifference defeat the good it is already accomplishing. On the contrary, let us each feel a personal interest and responsibility in the fate of this measure; and let us do all in our power, in our several country meetings, and by personal effort, to awaken in the profession throughout the State, and in the communities in which we dwell, such an interest in the cause of registration, as shall carry it forward to complete success.

NEW HAVEN, Mar, 1855.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SIXTY-THIRD ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

Conn. Medical Society,

MAY, 1860.

WITH A LIST OF MEMBERS.

HARTFORD:

FRANKLIN G. MASON, THAYER AND COMPANY,

PRINTERS.

Officers of the Society.

BENJAMIN H. CATLIN, M. D., PRESIDENT.
ASHBEL WOODWARD, M. D., VICE-PRESIDENT.
GEORGE O. SUMNER, M. D., TREASURER.
JOSIAH G. BECKWITH, M. D., SECRETARY.

Standing Committees.

Committee of Examination.

BENJAMIN H. CATLIN, M. D., *ex-officio*.
WILLIAM W. WELCH, M. D.
REYNOLD WEBB, M. D.
A. T. DOUGLAS, M. D.
CHARLES WOODWARD, M. D.
NATHAN S. PIKE, M. D.

Committee to nominate Physicians to the Retreat for the Insane.

D. P. FRANCIS, M. D.
JONATHAN KNIGHT, M. D.
ISAAC G. PORTER, M. D.
DAVID CRARY, M. D.
C. H. BROMLEY, M. D.

Committee to nominate Professors in the Medical Institution of Yale College.

DAVID HARRISON, M. D.
E. K. HUNT, M. D.
E. M. FOWLER, M. D.
WILLIAM N. CLARK, M. D.
ROBERT HUBBARD, M. D.

PROCEEDINGS.

THE Annual Convention of the President and Fellows, of the Connecticut Medical Society, was held in the Medical College in the city of New Haven, May 26, 1926.

The President called the Convention to order, when the minutes of the election of Fellows, were read by the Secretary, and referred to a committee, consisting of Drs. C. Rydman, Adiel Woodward, and H. W. Hough, who reported the following list of

F E L L O W S .

HARTFORD COUNTY.

Joseph Orsted, M. D.
M. L. Pike, M. D.
David Crary, M. D.
*R. A. White, M. D.
S. L. Child, M. D.

NEW LONDON COUNTY.

Austin F. Perkins, M. D.
A. T. Daughan, M. D.
Benjamin D. Doss, M. D.
Adiel Woodward, M. D.
John C. Bolles, M. D.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY.

Ira Grogg, M. D.
Justin Sherwood, M. D.
Robert Hubbard, M. D.
D. S. Barr, M. D.
A. L. Williams, M. D.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY.

Charles Woodward, M. D.
Eliza B. Nye, M. D.
Benjamin M. Fowler, M. D.

NEW HAVEN COUNTY.

P. A. Jewett, M. D.
Charles Rydman, M. D.
Sheldon Bondley, M. D.
Edward W. Hark, M. D.
Homer C. White, M. D.

STORHAM COUNTY.

Henry W. Hough, M. D.
L. Holbrook, M. D.
Calvin R. Bondley, M. D.
Nathan S. Pike, M. D.
*Asa Winter, M. D.

LITCHFIELD COUNTY.

Samuel W. Gold, M. D.
G. R. Miller, M. D.
George Seymour, M. D.
S. T. Salisbury, M. D.
*Myron Dwyer, M. D.

TOLLAND COUNTY.

Edwin G. Sumner, M. D.
F. L. Dickinson, M. D.
William N. Clark, M. D.

The President, Dr. WILLIAM H. COWSWELL, stated that in consequence of ill health, he had not been able to prepare an address, and he declined a reelection.

Resolved, That the next in resolution passed in 1853, be applied to the election of officers for the ensuing year.

After the appointment of Drs C. Woodward and Robert Hubbard as Tellers, and an informal ballot for the several offices to be filled, the Convention then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, when the following gentlemen were duly elected, *viz.*:

BENJAMIN H. CATLIN, M. D., PRESIDENT.
 ASHBEL WOODWARD, M. D., VICE-PRESIDENT.
 GEORGE A. SUMNER, M. D., TREASURER.
 JOSIAH C. BECKWITH, M. D., SECRETARY.

The President appointed the following gentlemen a committee to bring forward the unfinished business of last year, *viz.*, Drs. Sherwood, Dear, Crary, Salisbury, Pike, Fisher, and Clarke.

Dr. Child presented the report of the Sanitary Committee of Hartford County Medical Society, which was referred to a committee consisting of Drs. Child, Hatch, Douglas, Gregory, Pike, Seymour, Nye, and Sumner.

Dr. Jewett presented to the Convention an abstract prepared by Dr. Brewster, from a biographical notice of the late Myron W. Wilson, M. D., which had been read before the Hartford County Medical Society at its annual meeting, which was, on motion, ordered to be published by the Secretary with the Proceedings of the Convention.

Dr. Jewett offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That members of this Society shall be recommended to the President and Fellows of Yale College for the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Medicine, with such number shall have been in the practice of Medicine for the period of twenty-five years, at least, and no more than one shall be recommended from this State in any one year, and such Degree shall be conferred solely on the ground of distinguished merit and labor of the individual.

The resolution was referred to the committee, to be reported, on Honorary Degrees and Honorary Members.

Dr. Hunt, of Hartford, through Dr. Crary, made the following communication to the Convention:

Whereas, this society, having been notified that a person is to be commissioned to ascertain the number of idiots throughout the State, by a visit and inquiries in the several towns thereof, and also that the number of the insane and deaf and dumb, within the limits of the Commonwealth, can at the same time be ascertained with accuracy and with little increase of expense: Therefore,

Resolved, As the sense of this society, that an favorable an opportunity for procuring information of so much practical importance as that proposed ought not to be neglected, and that our Fellows be instructed to bring the subject before the State Medical Society at its next ensuing Convention, and seek on its part such action, by petition or otherwise, as in its wisdom shall seem most likely to secure the object in view.

The communication was referred to Drs. Crary, Hyattson, and Burr, who were instructed to report to the present Convention.

The report of the Treasurer was then read, accepted, and referred to a committee consisting of Drs. Dean, Miller, and Sherwood to examine and audit the same.

Abstract of Treasurer's Report.

Cash in Treasury.		\$110.30
Due from Clerks.	\$1,258.82½	
Deduct two-fifths for bad debts, statements, contributions, &c.	\$19.53	
Leaves		779.59½
Amount of assets.		\$929.59½
The Society owes for outstanding debentures.		423.25
Leaves balance in favor of Society.		\$506.34½

Drs. Salisbury, Olmsted, Boardley, Perkins, Williams, Hough, Nye, and Clarke were appointed a committee on Graduate Students.

Drs. Charles Woodward, Jewett, Fish, Hubbard, Hurdley, Gold, Bolles, and Dickinson, were appointed Committee on Honorary Degrees and Honorary Members.

Drs. Seymour, Burr, and Sturges were appointed Committee on Debentures.

The Convention then adjourned to 2 o'clock, P. M.

Two o'clock, P. M.

The Convention came together and were called to order.

The Convention then proceeded to an election to fill the vacancies in the several Standing Committees of the Society, when the following gentlemen were elected to fill the vacancies in the Committee of Examination, *viz.* :

Charles Woodward, M. D., and Nathan S. Pike, M. D., to fill the regular vacancies, and

A. T. Douglas, M. D., to fill the unexpired term of Dr. Cutler's office, made vacant by his election to the Presidency, and becoming thereby a member *ex-officio*.

David Coffy, M. D., and Calvin H. Browley, M. D., to fill the vacancies in the committee to nominate Physician to the Retreat for the Insane.

William S. Clark, M. D., and Robert Hubbard, M. D., to fill the vacancies in the Committee to nominate Professors in the Medical Institution of Yale College.

The following select committees were appointed, *viz.* :

Dr. Jewett, Douglas, and Robert Hubbard, to nominate Discusser to the next Convention.

Dr. Sheldon, Beardley, Fisk, Bodley, Gregory, Pike, Cobb, Williams, and Dickinson, to nominate Delegates to the National Convention.

Dr. Deam, from the committee appointed to audit the report of the Treasurer, reported that they had examined the same and found it correct.

Dr. White reported the action of the New Haven County Medical Society, and the City Association on the subject of conducting a system of Meteorological Observations in the several counties of this State according to the plan proposed by the Smithsonian Institute, and adopted by the Legislatures of New York, Massachusetts, Ohio, and Missouri. Several interesting facts were reported from the association by Dr. White, exhibiting the facilities now presented through the medium of the Patent Office and Smithsonian Institute, for collecting and giving publicity to these observations, also their practical bearings upon Science, Navigation, Hygiene, and Agriculture, and all the interests connected therewith, and that the demands of advancing science required some action from the State Medical Society, by

memorializing the Legislature to appoint a medical commission to establish stations and procure the necessary apparatus, or in some other way which they might deem proper and expedient.

The report and accompanying documents were referred to a committee on the Hartford Sanitary Resolutions, and Dr. White was added to the committee on said resolutions.

The letter of Dr. John D. Ford, who was appointed Dissector to the present Convention, was then read, stating that continued ill health had unfitted him from fulfilling the appointment, and in the present condition of his health it would be unwise and impolitic in the Convention to continue the appointment.

Also an apology was made for Dr. H. W. Foel, his substitute, that he had been absent from the State until recently, and that he received the notice of the inability of Dr. Ford to fulfill the appointment, too late to prepare a Dissertation for the present Convention.

The whole matter was referred to the committee on that subject.

Dr. Child, from the Committee on the Hartford County Sanitary Reports, reported, that in the opinion of the committee, sanitary investigations and reports should receive more general attention from members of the profession, and recommended that the Secretary of the State Society be requested to publish with its proceedings as much of the reports laid before this Convention as he may deem proper.

The report was accepted and the committee discharged.

Dr. Cary then offered the following resolution which was unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That in the death of MERRIS W. WILSON, M. D., of Hartford, the Society as well as the medical profession have lost a worthy and useful member.

Dr. Hunt, from the Standing Committee to nominate Professors for the Medical Institution of Yale College, made a report, which was read by the Secretary, and will be found in the appendix to the proceedings.

Dr. Charles Woodward, from the Committee on Honorary Degrees and Honorary Members, and to whom was referred the resolution of Dr. Jewett in relation to the qualifications which should be deemed essential in the person to be recommended by this Society for said Honorary Degree, reported.

That they approved of the resolution and recommended its adoption by the Convention, and that hereafter no person be recommended

for said distinguished honor, except after having been a practitioner for at least twenty-five years, and that said degree shall be conferred solely on the ground of distinguished merit and the honorable reputation of the individual, and only one in any year from the State.

The Committee further reported the names of Dr. John Atwood Tomlinson, of Harrodsburg, Kentucky, and Dr. Gilman Kimball, of Lowell, Mass., and also, Dr. Chester Hamlin, of Granby, Conn., for the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Medicine; also of Dr. Foster Hooper, of Fall River, for Honorary Membership.

The report of the committee was accepted and the committee discharged.

The Convention then proceeded to ballot for the gentlemen recommended by the committee and they were unanimously elected, as follows, viz.:

Drs. Tomlinson, Kimball and Hamlin, to be recommended by the Convention to the President and Fellows of Yale College, for the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Medicine, and Dr. Foster Hooper as Honorary Member of the State Medical Society.

Dr. Dean offered an obituary notice of the late Dr. ROBERT BRONSON, of New Haven county, which was referred to the New Haven County Medical Society for their action at the next annual meeting.

Dr. Crary, from the committee to whom was referred Dr. Hart's resolution in reference to collecting statistics of the number of the insane and deaf and dumb, reported the following resolution:

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed by this Society to petition the Legislature of this State, now in session, to appoint one person in every town to collect statistics of the insane and the deaf and dumb, throughout the State, and make report thereon.

Report of Committee accepted and resolution adopted.

Dr. Jewett, from the Committee to report the names of Dissertators for the next Convention, reported the names of the following gentlemen, viz.:

Benjamin D. Dime, M. D., of Norwich, for Dissertator, and Henry W. Buel, M. D., of Litchfield, as substitute.

Report accepted and the gentlemen were severally appointed as recommended.

Dr. Salisbury, from the Committee on Graduating Students, reported that the following gentlemen had been elected by the county meetings holden in their respective counties, viz.:

Hartford county,	Stephen E. Fuller,
New Haven county,	William C. Miner,
Middletown county,	Hamilton J. Lee,
New London county,	William S. C. Perkins,
Fairfield county,	George W. Barick,

That the counties of Windham, Litchfield, and Tolland, have selected no gratuitous students and are therefore vacant; but that in the opinion of your committee, there are no applicants who would fill the vacancies creditably to the profession and the society, and they therefore have made no recommendation of candidates for said vacancies.

The committee further recommend the appointment of a committee to petition the Legislature for the following alteration in the Charter of the Society, in the words following:

"Provided also, that no student shall be recommended as aforesaid, unless he shall have previously attended one course of Lectures in the Medical Institution of Yale College."

The report of the committee was accepted in part, and the resolution providing for the proposed alteration of charter, was recommitted to the committee for further consideration in reference to dispensing with gratuitous students altogether.

The committee to whom was referred the application of the New Haven Medical Association, the New Haven County Society, and the Hartford County Medical Society, asking the attention of the Convention to the importance of a system of Meteorological Observations in this State, through Drs. Cary and White, made the following report:

That this Convention consider it highly desirable that a system of Meteorological Observations be conducted in each county in the State according to the plan proposed by the Smithsonian Institution, and adopted by Massachusetts, New York, Ohio, and Missouri.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to bring this subject to the attention of the Legislature of this State, and secure, if practicable, suitable legislation on this subject.

Report of the committee accepted, resolution adopted, and committee discharged.

Adjourned to meet at 8 o'clock, to-morrow morning in the Hospital.

New Haven Hospital, 8½ o'clock, A. M.

The Convention was called to order by the President.

The committee to whom was referred the further consideration of the proposed alteration in the Charter of the Connecticut Medical Society in its connection with Yale College, made a further report, which, after discussion, resulted in the adoption of the alteration proposed in their report, requiring a previous attendance upon one course of Lectures at Yale College as indispensable to an election or appointment to a gratuitous course of lectures at Yale College.

Prof. Charles Hooker, of New Haven, Dr. J. G. Beckwith, of Litchfield, Dr. J. H. Hoyt, of Greenwich, were appointed a committee to procure such an alteration of Charter from the Legislature, as would conform to the views of the Convention.

Dr. Charles Woodward offered the following resolution in reference to the postponement of the time for holding the annual meeting of the American Medical Association.

Resolved, That this Convention respectfully recommend to the American Medical Association to change the regulation for the time of holding the annual meetings of the Association so that meetings in the northern cities may be held at a later season of the year.

Adopted unanimously.

The committee appointed to present the memorial of the Connecticut Medical Society to the Legislature of this State, and ask for an appropriation for the establishment of Meteorological Observations in this State, were Dr. Moses C. White, New Haven, Dr. J. G. Beckwith, of Litchfield, and Dr. S. G. Hubbard, of New Haven.

The committee appointed to nominate Delegates to the National Convention, at Nashville, Tennessee, on the first Tuesday in May, 1857, reported the following names: P. G. Rockwell, of Waterbury, Seth L. Child, of East Hartford, David S. Burr, of Westport, Norman Brigham, of Mansfield.

The report was accepted, and the delegates were appointed, and the committee discharged.

On motion of Dr. Jewett,

Resolved, That a committee of one from a county be appointed to

Delegates to the Massachusetts Medical Society at their next annual Convention.

The following gentlemen were appointed, viz.:

Hartford county,	Seth L. Child,
New Haven county,	P. A. Jewett,
New London county,	Austin F. Perkins,
Windham county,	James B. Wilcombs,
Fairfield county,	Lewis Richards,
Litchfield county,	J. G. Beckwith,
Middlesex county,	Em Huxelmann,
Tolland county,	F. L. Dickinson.

On motion of Dr. Dean,

Resolved, That a tax of one dollar and fifty cents be levied on each member of this society, for the ensuing year, and made payable on the 1st day of June next.

Resolution passed, and the tax laid.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention be tendered to Dr. WILLIAM H. UNDERWELL, for the able and important manner in which he has discharged the duties of President of this Society for the last two years.

Adopted unanimously.

Resolved, That the hearty thanks of this Convention be cordially tendered to the members of the New Haven City Medical Association for their kind attention and generous hospitality to the members of this Convention during its present session.

The Committee on Debates made a report, which was accepted and ordered to be paid.

On motion, the Convention then adjourned, sine die.

Attest,

JOSIAH G. BECKWITH, Secretary.

Members of the Society.

HONORARY MEMBERS

JAMES JACKSON,	Dorset, Mass.
*JOHN C. WARREN,	Roxbury, Mass.
BENJAMIN KILLMAN,	New Haven,
*THEODORE HOMERUS DECK,	Albany, N. Y.
EDWARD DELAFIELD,	New York.
JOHN DELAMATER,	Cleveland, Ohio.
JACOB ENGELW,	Roxbury, Mass.
WALTER CHANNING,	Dorset, Mass.
HENRY MITCHELL,	Savannah, N. Y.
NATHAN RUSO SMITH,	Baltimore, Md.
VALENTINE MOYT,	New York.
REUBEN D. MUSSEY,	Charleston, S. C.
WILLIAM TULLY,	Springfield, Mass.
RICHMOND BROWNELL,	Providence, R. I.
WILLIAM BRAUMONT,	St. Louis, Mo.
SAMUEL HENRY DICKSON,	Charleston, S. C.
*STEPHEN W. WILLIAMS,	Dorchester, Mass.
WILLARD PARKER,	New York.
BENJAMIN TICKNOR,	U. S. Navy
ALDEN MARCH,	Albany, N. Y.
CHARLES A. LEE,	New York.
DAVID S. C. H. SMITH,	Providence, R. I.
HENRY D. BULKLEY,	New York.
J. MADDON SYMS,	Montgomery, Ala.
JOHN WATSON,	New York.
FRANK H. HAMILTON,	Genoa, N. Y.
ROBERT WATTS,	New York.
J. V. C. SMITH,	Roxbury, Mass.
H. WESTHILL HOLMES,	Boston, Mass.
JOSEPH SARGENT,	Waltham, Mass.
MASON F. COGSWELL,	Albany, N. Y.
FOSTER HOOVER,	Fall River, Mass.

ORDINARY MEMBERS.

The names of those Members who are exempt from taxation by age, are in italics; the names of those who have been Presidents of the Society, are in capitals.

HARTFORD COUNTY.

JOSEPH HOLMSTED, M. D., Chairman.

WILLIAM E. DEWEY, M. D., Clerk.

- | | |
|--|--|
| HARTFORD, Henry Holmes, Samuel B. Bradford, George B. Hawley, Gordon W. Russell, David Crary, F. W. Ellsworth, Benjamin Rogers, F. K. Hunt, John S. Butler, J. C. Jackson, A. W. Barcott, Thomas Minor, H. Greeley, William Parson, John F. Wells, William R. Brewster, P. M. Hastings, S. C. Fyemon, J. S. Carter, Edmund Bradley, Stephen H. Feltus. | UNIONVILLE, William H. Sage. |
| AVON, Alfred Kellogg. | GLASTENBURY, Clinton Bower. |
| BERLIN, E. Brewington, Jr. | South Glastenbury, C. E. Hammond. |
| NEW BRITAIN, Samuel Hart, Russell Hawley, E. D. Halsey, B. N. Comight, S. W. Hart. | LEMAN, J. Andrus, Henry Gilbert. |
| Bloomfield, Henry Gage. | Eastbury, Nolin Stocking. |
| Branford, Joseph W. Camp, John S. Moody, Louis North. | GRANBY, Joseph F. Jewett. |
| BURLINGTON, William Elton, et | East Granby, Chester Hamlin. |
| CANTON, Ashmun, Russell H. Tiffany. | West Granby, James D. Wilson. |
| EAST HARTFORD, Seth L. Child, Clarence M. Brewster. | North Granby, Francis F. Allen. |
| EAST WINDSOR, Henry Wason. | MANSFIELD, W. O. Williams, W. Scott. |
| FRANK FORD, Martin L. Park. | ROCKY HILL, Sylvester Babbitt, E. W. Grosvenor. |
| Greenwich, Ebenezer, Joseph Olmstead. | SIMSBURY, Frederick A. White. |
| HAFFIELD, J. P. Coates, A. L. Spaulding, H. A. Grant. | THYFFIELD, George W. Sanford. |
| Thompsonville, J. Bailey, Beach, L. S. Pratt. | SOUTHBRIDGE, Julius S. Barnes, S. H. Byington, F. A. Hart. |
| FARMINGTON, Abiel Thompson. | SOUTH WINDSOR, Horace C. Gilman, H. Goodrich. |
| Plainville, G. A. Moody. | East Windsor Hill, Wm. Wood, Sidney Bonwick. |
| | SUFFERDEN, S. B. Low, Arthur Bishop. |
| | West Suffield, O. W. Kellogg. |
| | WETHERFIELD, R. F. Cooke, A. S. Warner, S. Fox. |
| | WEST HARTFORD, Edward Rogers. |
| | WINDSOR, William S. Pomeroy, A. Mason, Samuel A. Wilson. |
| | Windsor Locks, Samuel W. Skinner. |
| | POQUONOC, Oliver B. Driggs. |

NEW HAVEN COUNTY.

L. N. BEARDSLEY, M. D., Chairman.

JOHN NICOLL, M. D., Clerk.

- NEW HAVEN, Eli Ives, T. P. Ross,
Jonathan Knight, Samuel Pashover,
Giles H. Ames, A. S. Munson, Chas.
Hooker, Nathan B. Ives, E. H. Bishop,
E. D. North, J. A. Totten, Levi
Ives, Eli A. Jones, D. J. Dugger,
George O. Bennett, D. A. Tyler,
Henry Brannon, E. A. Park, R. G.
Hallard, W. J. Whiting, H. W. E.
Mathews, C. A. Lindley, Worthington
Hooker, T. P. Berry, Jr., Charles
Byington, M. W. Taylor, Samuel
Lloyd, H. L. Fish, Thomas H.
Towner, J. K. Deems, John Nicoll,
Moses C. White, Leonard J. Sanford,
C. L. Ives, Robert Kerve.
Fair Haven, C. S. Thompson, W. M.
White, Lyman Perkins, J. H. Beecher.
BRYANT, Asa C. Woodward.
BRADFORD, William L. Log, Jacob
O. Loomis.
SOUTH BRADFORD, Sheldon Boardley.
CANTON, A. J. Drury, Harvey B.
Way, Seth B. Wilson.
DENVY, Amos, Samuel P. Church.
DUNSTABLE, Amos Boardley, T.
Dustin.
HARTLEY, F. D. Smith.
Hempsteadville, Nathan C. Johnson,
John Kendall, Thomas Stoddard.
EAST HAVEN, John Farnham.
North Haven, Rowell F. Stillman.
GAYLORD, Joel Cunniff, Alvin Tal-
cott.
MAYBROOK, Zephail Webb, D. M. Webb.
MERRIDEN, Lewis Sumner.
West Meriden, H. H. CATLEN, Edward
W. Hatch.
YALLOUT, C. B. McJannet.
MILFORD, Hall Alden, L. N. Boardley.
SANDWICH, J. D. Moore, Henry Per-
kins.
ROXBOROUGH, A. B. Burin.
SOUTH BRIDGE, N. C. Baldwin.
WALLINGFORD, Nehemiah Banks, Sam-
uel S. Russell.
WATERBURY, M. C. Leavenworth, G.
L. Platt, John Deems, George E.
Perkins, M. B. Perkins, Sturge
Bekley, P. G. Rockwell, Thomas
Boughton.
WINDSOR, Isaac Goodell, Andrew
Carrle.

NEW LONDON COUNTY.

M. D., Chairman.

BENJAMIN D. DRAY, M. D., Clerk.

- NEW LONDON, Dyer, T. Russell, No-
man, S. Perkins, James Morgan,
Isaac G. Foster, William W. Hunt,
Seth Smith, D. P. Francis, Albert
Robson, Robert A. Maynard.
SOMERICH, Richard P. Tracy, Edwin
Good, Elijah Dwy, Eliza Palmer,
John D. Ford, Edwin Bentley, Ben-
jamin D. Dyer, John P. Fuller, Alon-
so Fuller, Horace Thompson, Henry
W. Leach, Daniel G. Galloway, A. B.
Hale.
BOZEMAN, Samuel Johnson.
CALDWELL, Edwin W. Parsons, Fred-
rick Meyer, Melanson Kears.
EAST LYME, John L. Smith, Austin T.
Perkins.
FRANKLIN, Asahel Woodward.
Glastonbury, Asahel City, William Sade.
GROTON, Joseph Duffey.
Hart, A. T. Douglass.
LAKATON, Joseph Cunniff, Ralph P.
Greene.
LANSING, Gile's Ferry, Rufus W. Mah-
erson.
LYME, Richard Noyes.
North Lyme, Wm. W. J. Warner.
MAYVILLE, John C. Bailey.
COCOA, Samuel E. Maynard.
PACIFIC, Elmer B. Dunning.
SALEM, Nathaniel Foster.
SEASTON, William Hyde, George E.
Palmer, William Hyde, Jr.
NORFOLK, Mason Manning.
NORFOLK, E. F. Carr, A. W.
Carr.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY.*

M. D., Chairman.

JESSE EBERHARD, Clerk.

FAIRFIELD, S. F. V. R. Ten Brook.	HOWINGTON, James H. Shales.
Greenfield, Rufus Hakeman.	Mendon, Salmon H. Hall.
Southport, James Sherwood.	NEW CANAAN, Samuel S. Nye, Lewis
BRIDGEPORT, D. H. Sack, Frederick	Richards.
J. Judson, L. W. Barrett, William H.	NEWFALL, John J. McLean, Ira Grey-
Nash, Robert Hubbard, H. S. Den-	ney.
son, L. F. Hennessey.	SHARPSBURG, N. D. Haigh, Samuel
BROOKFIELD, Noah A. Jany, A. I.	Smith, Lewis Hartlett.
Williams.	STRATFORD, William T. Shales.
DANBURY, K. H. Bedford, E. F. Bon-	TATUMS, ELIJAH MIDDLE-
nett.	BROOK, George Dyer.
EASTON, James Baldwin, Alfred P.	WESTPORT, George Hackman, David
Tobacco.	S. Day.

WINDHAM COUNTY

LEWIS WILLIAMS, M. D., Chairman.

JAMES B. WHITCOMB, M. D., Clerk.

BROOKLYN, James B. Whitcomb, Wm.	Mosby, Mary Hanson, Lewis E. Davis,
Ham Woodbridge.	Frank Burgess.
ANDOVER, John H. Simmons.	PLACEDD, Gustav, Charles H. Rogers.
CANTONMENT, Eliza Bullard, Joseph	POWERS, Hyatt Holt, Lewis Williams.
Talbot.	SEABOARD, William A. Lewis, Nathan
CHAPLIN, Orris Water.	S. Pike.
HARTFORD, Dyer Haglan.	TOWNSEND, Levee Hubbard, John
KILLBUCK, George, James Han-	McGeorge.
wood.	VANDERBILT, Harvey Campbell.
South Killingly, Daniel A. Bovey.	WATERBURY, Oliver Hunt, De Witt C.
East Killingly, F. E. Hill.	Lathrop.
West Killingly, David E. Hall, Samuel	WILLIAMSBURG, John Hill, Jr.
Hutchins, Stephen C. Griggs.	WINDHAM, Calvin H. Bramley.
PATTON, Henry W. Hoag, Thomas W.	WINDHAM, Nath. Ann Water.
Perry.	South Windham, Lorenzo Mory.
PLAINFIELD, WM. R. COGSWELL.	West Windham, Milton Bradford.

LITCHFIELD COUNTY.

WILLIAM WOODRUFF, M. D., Chairman.

HENRY W. REED, M. D., Clerk.

LITCHFIELD, Josiah G. Rockwell, Geo.	CANARY, Thomas H. Smith, A. A.
Noyes, D. E. Barwick, E. Osborn,	Wright.
H. W. Bond.	South Canaan, John A. Gilson.
South Ferris, Garry H. Miner, George	CORNWALL, Robert B. North.
Adams.	West Cornwall, Samuel W. Gold.

* No returns from the Clerk of Fairfield county—we insert the last year returns.

COLLIERSON, Seth Pease.
Gayles's Bridge, Gamaliel H. St. John.
 GOSSEN, A. M. Blaney.
 HARTWELL, V. Miller, G. B. Miller.
 KENT, Will Beardsley.
 NEW MILFORD, John Williams.
Bridgewater, House-Jacks.
 NORTON, William W. Welch, John H. Welch.
 PAYSON, Samuel T. Salisbury.
Plymouth, Oliver, William Woodruff.
 ROBERTS, Myron Downe.
 SALISBURY, John Village, C. B. Mathie.
Lakewood, Benjamin Welch, Wm. M. Knight.

NEW HARTFORD, Joel, A. E. Barber.
 SHAWNS, Ralph Denning, Channoy Root.
 TOLLINGTON, Whitcomb, *Leicester Row*
well, J. W. Phelps.
 WARREN, Jos. B. Davidson.
 WHITFIELD, Manley Foster.
 WASHINGTON, R. M. Fowler.
New Paines, Sidney H. Lyman, Edward P. Lyman.
 WINDHAM, Hest Hunsell, James Welch, J. W. Edwells.
 WOODBURY, Charles H. Webb.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY.

ASA H. KING, M. D., Chairman.

ELISHA B. NYE, M. D., Clerk.

MIDDLETOWN, Joseph Barrett, Charles Woodruff, William B. Cady, David Harrison, Elisha B. Nye, George W. Burke, Moses C. Hays.
 CHATHAM, *East Hampton, Francis G. Edgerton.*
Malin's Hollow, A. B. Worthington.
 CHESTER, S. W. Turner.
 CLINTON, Deason H. Hubbard.
 CROMWELL, Ira Hatchinson.
 DURHAM, Benjamin M. Foster.

EAST HAMMAM, Am M. Holt, *Leicester*
Williams.
 HAMMAM, Edwin Edwells.
 HUNTINGTON, William H. Tremaine.
 PORTLAND, George O. Jarvis, G. C. H. Gilbert.
 SATBROOK, Am H. King.
Deep River, Rufus Baker.
 OLD SATBROOK, *East, Alexander H. Hough, Frederick W. Shepard.*

TOLLAND COUNTY.

F. L. DICKINSON, M. D., Chairman.

GILBERT H. PRATT, M. D., Clerk.

TOLLAND, Oliver K. Johns, Gilbert H. Preston.
 BOLTON, Charles F. Sumner.
 COLUMBIA, Harrison McIsaac.
 COVENTRY, *North, Elmer Hunt*
St. Gregory, T. Dimock, H. S. Dean.
 ELLINGTON, *Heath's Dam.*
 HERRON, JOHN S. PETERS, Orrin C. White.
 MANSFIELD, *North, Norman Douglas,*
W. H. Kobashik.
 Egleville, Edwin G. Sumner.

South Mansfield, Earl Sayre.
 SORENS, *Green Wood, Thomas E. Hays*
Dick.
 SYDENHAM, *East, William S. Clark,*
Elmer S. Dade.
 STAFFORD, *West, Joshua C. Blodgett.*
 UNION, E. Limley.
 VERNON, John B. Lewis.
 BULLOCK, Allen Skinner.
 WINDHAM, Francis L. Dickinson.
 STEPHENSBURG, Stephen F. Pomroy.

**SUMMARY OF ORDINARY MEMBERS FOR 1884, WITH THE
DEATHS IN THE YEAR ENDING APRIL 1, 1885.**

	Taxable	Not Taxable	Total	Deaths
Hartford County,	73	6	84	3
New Haven County,	38	11	51	9
New London County,	35	12	47	0
Fairfield County,	31	7	38	0
Windham County,	29	2	34	0
Litchfield County,	24	8	42	9
Madison County,	22	1	23	0
Tolland County,	20	2	22	2
Total,	231	52	304	7

NOTE. *Foreign Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society, are permanent members of the annual Convention, having the privilege of attending all meetings, and performing all the duties of attending members, except that of casting their votes. And all members of the Society are limited, by the By-Laws, to be present at all meetings of the Convention.*

DEATHS OF MEMBERS DURING THE YEAR ENDING APRIL 1, 1885.

WITH THE AGE AND DISEASE SO FAR AS ASCERTAINABLE.

Hartford County. Myron W. Wilson, aged 25. Typhoid Fever.
 New Haven County. Albert Goodland, aged 79. Old Age. Horace Benson, aged —. Pneumonia.
 Litchfield County. Abel Catlin, aged 84. An injury of the Spine. E. D. Rogers, aged about 20. Typhoid Fever.
 Tolland County. Abijah Todd, aged 66. Paralysis. Allen Hyde, aged 82.

DUTIES OF CLERKS.

To warn County Meetings.

To record the proceedings of the County Meetings.

To collect the taxes and pay the same to the Treasurer.

To transmit to the Secretary a list of the elected Fellows, and the persons recommended as a candidate for a gratuitous course of lectures, immediately after the County Meetings, for publication.

To make certificates of Fellowship, to be transmitted to the Secretary, on or before the first day of the Convention.

To transmit duplicate lists of the Members of the Society, to the Secretary and Treasurer, on or before the first day of the Convention, on the penalty of five dollars for each neglect.

To return to the Treasurer the names of *delinquent* Members of the Society.

To report to the Secretary of the State Convention, on the first day of its session, the names, ages, and *dates* of the members of this Society, who may have died during the year preceding the 1st of April in each year, in their several County Societies.

RULES OF ORDER.

1. Organization.
2. Certificate of Membership presented and read by the Secretary.
3. Committee on the Election of Fellows.
4. Address of President.
5. Election of Officers for ensuing year.
6. Unfinished business of previous year disposed of.
7. Reception and reference, *without debate*, of Communications, Resolves, &c., from the several Counties, and Members of the Convention.
8. Reading Treasurer's Report.
9. Committee to audit the same.
10. Committee on Delinquents.
11. Standing Committees appointed.
12. Committee to nominate Delegates to National Convention.
13. Committee on Candidates for Graduate Course of Lectures.
14. Committee on Honorary Degrees and Honorary Memberships.
15. Committee to nominate Dissertator.
16. Dissertation.
17. Reports of Committees appointed on County Communications, Resolves, &c.
18. Reports of Standing Committees.
19. Reports of Committees in the order in which business was brought forward in Convention.
20. Miscellaneous business.

DISSERTATIONS READ IN CONVENTIONS.

1794. Dr. S. H. P. Lee, on *Animal Bilious Fever*.
1794. Dr. Gideon Shepherd, on the *Properties of Opium*.
1795. Dr. F. P. Orriere, on the *Preparations of Antimony*.
1795. Dr. Thaddeus Betts, on the *Different Species of Colic*.
1796. Dr. F. P. Orriere, on the *Contagion of Yellow Fever*.
1796. Dr. S. H. P. Lee, on *Cynanche Testicularis*.
1796. Dr. Lewis Collins, on the most eligible mode of increasing
Medical Knowledge in this State.
1796. Dr. Gideon Shepherd, on the same subject.
1798. Dr. Samuel Hopkins, case of *Bilious Convulsion*.
1798. Dr. Jared Potter, "An Essay."
1799. Dr. Thaddeus Clark, a Dissertation.
1800. Dr. Nathaniel Dwight on *Lunary*.
1804. Dr. Samuel Willard, on the *Stafford Mineral Waters*.
1817. Dr. W. R. Fowler, on the *Deleterious Effects of Ardent Spirits*.
1818. Dr. William Beal, on *Ergot*.
1820. Dr. Thomas Miner, on *Typhus Fever*.
1821. Dr. Samuel Backwell, on *Uterine Hemorrhage*.
1822. Dr. William Tully, on the *Yellow Fever at Middletown*.
1823. Dr. Dyer T. Brimard.
1827. Dr. Samuel B. Woodward, on the *Biography of the Physicians of the State*.
1829. Dr. George Sumner, on *Extra-uterine Conception*.
1830. Dr. Charles Huske, on *Diseases of the Ear*.
1833. Dr. Benjamin Welch, Jr., on the *Vitality of the Blood*.
1836. Dr. E. H. Bishop, *Influence of Moral Emotions on Disease*.
1837. Dr. Archibald Welch, on *Scarlet Fever*.
1838. Dr. Isaac G. Porter, on the *Disease commonly designated Spinal Irritation*.
1839. Dr. Henry Rowson, on the *Mental Qualifications necessary to a Physician*.

1840. Dr. Richard Warner, on the Advantages of prompt and efficient practice in Acute Diseases.
1841. Dr. Amariah Brigham, on Insanity as a subject of Medical Jurisprudence.
1842. Dr. Charles Woodward, on Uterine Irritation.
1843. Dr. Pinckney W. Ellsworth, on Phlebitis.
1844. Dr. Worthington Hooker, on the Respect due to the Medical Profession, and the reasons that it is not awarded by the Community.
1845. Dr. Nathan B. Ives, on Laryngismus Stridulus.
1846. Dr. Theodore Sill, Observations on Typhus Fever.
1847. Dr. E. K. Hunt, on the Importance of a Medical Organization, and the advantages resulting from it.
1848. Dr. B. F. Barker, Remarks on some forms of Disease of the Cervix Uteri.
1849. Dr. Alvan Talcott, on Hygiene.
1850. Dr. Johnson C. Hatch, on Medical Jurisprudence.
1851. Dr. George Sumner, on the Early Physicians of Connecticut.
1853. Dr. Rufus Blakeman, Early Physicians of Fairfield County.
1853. Dr. Samuel Beach, on Popularizing Medicine.
1854. Dr. Wm. B. Casey, on Diseased Cervix Uteri.
1855. Dr. Stephen G. Hubbard, on Registration, as the basis of Sanitary Reform.

APPENDIX.

The Standing Committee of Examination Report:

THE Board of Examiners convened on Wednesday, January 9, 1856, Present, on the part of the Connecticut Medical Society:

William H. Cogswell, M. D., of Halesfield, President; Reynold Webb, M. D., of Madison, and Benjamin H. Caffey, M. D., of Meriden.

And on the part of Yale College, Professors J. Knight, C. Hooker, H. Brown, W. Hooker, and B. Silliman, Jr.

After the organization of the Board, thirteen candidates read Dissertations, and after examination, were recommended for the degree of Doctor in Medicine, viz.:

1. Leonard Woolsey Howe, B. A., 1853, New Haven, Dissertation: a Review of "A Monograph on Mental Unsoundness, by Francis Wharton."

2. William Russell, B. A., 1853, Litchfield, on "Febris."

3. George British Boston, New Haven, on "Abortion."

4. Oliver H. Benson, Chelsea, on "Wounds of Arteries with Hemorrhage."

5. Luther Clark Cox, Easton, Md., on "Anæsthesia."

6. William Denning, Litchfield, on "The Function of the Liver."

7. Henry L. Fitch, New Haven, on "The Diseases of Children."

8. Richard Foot, New Haven, on "Hydrocephalus."

9. Joseph Sheldon French, B. A., 1855, Bridgeport, on "Croup."

10. Elijah Gregory, Danbury, on "Scarlatina."

11. Cyrus Benson Newton, Somers, on "Convulsion and Compression."

12. Stephen F. Pomeroy, South Coventry, on "Croup."

13. James A. Richards, B. A., Ansonia, New Haven, "Vegetable and Animal Respiration, with Valedictory Address."

One License only was granted by the President of the Connecticut Medical Society, and that was to William Camp, of Newtown, whose Dissertation was on "Inflammation."

John D. Ford, M. D., of Norwich, and William W. Welch, M. D., of

Norfolk, were appointed to give the Annual Addresses to the candidates in 1856 and 1857.

The Board then adjourned to meet on Tuesday, July 25th, 1856, for a semi-annual examination.

And your committee would further report:

That the Commencement Exercises which came off in the Medical College on the evening of the 18th, were of much interest, and were attended by a large audience of ladies and gentlemen.

The Valedictory Address was given by Dr. James A. Richards, of the Graduating Class, which was creditable to the author; and the Annual Address to the Candidates, by Benjamin H. Cutler, M. D., of Meriden, Vice-President of the Connecticut Medical Society, and a member of the Board of Examiners, which was particularly able and appropriate; after which the Degrees were conferred by President Woolsey, of Yale College.

All which is respectfully submitted.

W. H. COGSWELL, Chairman.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON NOMINATING PROFESSORS.

To the Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society, in Convention at New Haven, May 25th, 1856.

THE COMMITTEES of this Society appointed to nominate, on its part "Professors in the Medical Institutions of Yale College," respectfully report:

That on the resignation of Prof. T. P. BRUNS, they were summoned by the President to meet a committee of the College Corporation, to name a successor.

The committee of the Corporation present, consisted of the Rev. Jeremiah Day, D. D., Prof. B. SILLIMAN, Senior, and Hon. Henry Dutton; and from the Connecticut Medical Society, Drs. W. C. WILLIAMS, David HARRISON, and E. K. HUNT.

The letter from Prof. BRUNS announcing his resignation having been read, it was voted unanimously, that the name of FRANK A. JEWETT, M. D., of New Haven, be presented to the Corporation for their appointment to the vacant Professorship.

B. SILLIMAN, Chairman.

E. K. HUNT, Secretary.

NEW HAVEN, April 16, 1856.

Biographical Sketch of Dr. Wilson.

The following remarks have been extracted from a Memoir of the late MYRON W. WILSON, M. D., read before the Hartford Medical Society by Dr. S. R. Beresford, January 7th, 1856.

Dr. MYRON W. WILSON, second son of John W. and Elizabeth Wilson, was born on the 20th of April, 1818, at Watervliet, Albany County, in the State of New York, where his earliest childhood was passed. The family removing to Schoenectady, in the same State, he was placed at the Albany Academy, and there obtained his classical and general education.

Selecting the profession of Medicine, he commenced his study at the age of nineteen, with Dr. J. H. Case, of Albany county, remaining with that gentleman one year, and passing the following in the office of Dr. W. N. Daine, of Schoenectady. In the winter of 1839 and 1840, he attended the course of lectures at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, of Western New York, during its last session; and again in 1840, resumed his studies at the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, graduating there at the close of the medical term. Immediately after graduation, he received the appointment of resident physician to the Philadelphia Almshouse and Hospital, for a year, and at its expiration returned to Schoenectady and commenced practice.

On the 14th of September, 1843, Dr. Wilson married Miss Elizabeth Putnam, eldest daughter of the late Dr. George Sumner, of Hartford, Conn., continuing the pursuit of his profession at Schoenectady, until the winter of 1847, when he removed to Hartford.

In this new position, his capabilities as a practitioner, assisted by the influence of Dr. Sumner, soon procured him a respectable share of employment. His business gradually augmenting, was after Dr. Sumner's decease, further increased. At his death it was still increasing; his position was one of unusual promise, and had he survived, his usefulness would probably have been observed, not alone by the public, but by the profession, of which he was an honorable, efficient, and deserving member.

As a physician, Dr. Wilson was practical and well informed. With excellent judgment, and a mind well versed in the medical literature of the day, he also possessed sound discrimination, the result of an experience carefully gathered and remembered.

To the kindest sympathies, were likewise added energy and decision, important qualifications in the practicing physician. At the bedside of the sick, he was patient, affectionate, and attentive; soothing the mind, securing

the weak and desponding, and smoothing the pillow of the dying. His remarks were appropriate and comforting, his practice judicious, and whole demeanor such as seldom failed to secure the confidence of patients and friends. In professional intercourse, the doctor was frank, maintaining his own views with firmness, yet ever respectfully considering opposite opinions; and never neglecting the courtesy and forbearance, so essential to harmony and good feeling. Scrupulously observant of medical etiquette, none grieved it higher, or felt more pained at any violation of accustomed rules of propriety. An enemy to all quackery, fashionable or vulgar, open or disguised, he has left behind him in the remembrance of his fellow-practitioners, an esteemed and envied reputation.

In 1855, Dr. Wilson succeeded the late Dr. Sumner, as Physician to the Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Company, having for some time previously been associated with him in that appointment.

He was an active, enterprising citizen, an affable, pleasant companion, and a sincere, reliable friend. His social virtues were an attractive element in his character, and could not but be acknowledged by such as knew him intimately.

At the last annual meeting of the American Medical Association, Dr. Wilson was appointed chairman of the Committee on Registration; a favorite subject with him, and one to which he had given earnest attention.

With strong attachment to his profession, was also conjoined marked literary taste; and in 1854, Trinity College, Hartford, Conn., conferred on him the honorary degree of Master of Arts.

Dr. Wilson was a sincere though unpretending Christian. His piety unobtrusive, was yet real and fervent. Devotedly attached to the doctrines and forms of the Protestant Episcopal Church, he never ceased to evince the warmest interest in every thing pertaining to its welfare; and had he lived, his energy and usefulness would have been widely felt in every department of Christian benevolence, according to his means and opportunities.

An extensive circle of friends and acquaintances, who loved the man and respected the physician, deeply regret the early removal of one who posessed so favorably. While in attendance on two cases of typhoid fever, Dr. Wilson was unfortunately seized with the same malady, on the 10th of September, 1855. The disease, from its invasion severe, soon became threatening and alarming; and notwithstanding the increasing watchfulness, of anxious attending physicians, and the devoted care of affectionate relatives and friends, terminated his valuable life, on the evening of the 4th of October following.

If there are no exciting events to be noticed in the life of Dr. Wilson, the daily record of that life, would furnish ample proof of a devotion to his profession, in all its active, retiring, and self-sacrificing labors, worthy of our best imitation, and above praise. A good and useful man in his generation, he has fallen at an early age, like many of the brethren before him, in the harness of duty. "*Requiescat in pace.*"

Abstract of the Reports

OF THE

SANITARY CONDITION OF HARTFORD COUNTY, FOR 1835.

HARTFORD, BY DR. GIDEON W. RUSSELL.

In common with other parts of the county, I would report that the past year has been one of great health, and small mortality. The amount of sickness in the town was less than usual, judging from my own observations and those of others, we did the cases continue as long, or terminate unfavorably as frequently, as in some former years.

The commencement of the year was cold, and during the month of February the thermometer sank frequently below zero, on one occasion as low as 15°; the spring months were cold and rainy, and pneumonic complaints prevailed to some extent. June and July were hot and moist, the thermometer rising on one occasion to 85° Fahrenheit in the shade, and for several days in succession ranged from 80° to 85°. The heat was excessive and prostrating, the atmosphere the latter part of the month being quite sultry, so that many prostrated an unhealthy person, yet I find in minutes made at the time, "that there has been but little sickness during this month; that it has been healthier than usual." The latter part of the year may be characterized as warm and dry.

There has been no epidemic prevailing during the year, and with the exception of typhoid fever, a less amount than usual of diseases of the typhoid class; this fever prevailed mostly during the last six months, and though it was not extensive, yet was far beyond what we are accustomed to meet with here. The mortality was small compared with the number of cases, being I think but nine during the whole year, yet often the symptoms were severe. I made frequent inquiries during this time of different physicians, to ascertain if this was an epidemic constitution affecting this country, or this region, and could not ascertain that it was general in its character; some replied that they had none, and some less than usual, whilst with others a few cases had occurred, as was the custom every year.

There was certainly less of diarrhea and kindred diseases of the bowels, than usual, and the cases were more amenable to treatment, requiring generally but the mildest remedies.

Drs. Wells and Brewster, a member of the Hartford Medical Society,

reported to that body that the deaths of the city for the year 1855, were returned as 280, classified as follows:

1. Zymotic, (including epidemic, epidemic, and contagious.)	58
2. Diseases of general or uncertain seat.	23
3. " " nervous system,	41
4. " " respiratory organs,	72
5. " " organs of circulation,	1
6. " " digestive system,	19
7. " " urinary organs,	2
8. " " generative system,	5
9. " " old age,	5
10. " " external causes,	11
11. " " causes not specified,	3
12. Still born,	12

They say "that notwithstanding the constant increase of our population, the number of deaths is less than in any one of the preceding five years, with the exception of 1853." These remarks, though made with reference to the city, are strictly true of the town also.

The population of the city being 24,095, and the deaths 280, the per centage of the mortality is 1.16.

They remark that "in presenting this report, we would draw the attention of the Society to the number of deaths from diseases of the respiratory organs: this is the only class where our mortality record is not less than during the preceding year. Here is a marked increase, it being 72, whilst in 1854 it was 41."

"Although the whole number of deaths was much less than during the previous year, yet upon examination we find that during the second quarter, on the months of April, May and June, the reverse is the case, and here as in the previous exception, the difference is very great, the number being 62, whilst during the previous year it was in the corresponding months but 41."

It has occurred to me that the uncommonly cool and moist spring, with great frosts, snows and long continued, the Connecticut river being on one occasion fourteen feet above low water mark in June, may be some of the causes to which this increased mortality is owing; at these times an easterly or north-easterly wind is apt to prevail, and the atmosphere, chilly and loaded with moisture, is exceedingly uncomfortable and depressing. It may be that some chronic diseases of the respiratory organs were brought to an end by influences of this character, which would with a genial air and pleasant sunshine have been prolonged into the summer or autumn months.

It is to these agencies, or those of a similar character, that we must look for an increase or decrease in this class of diseases, for the other inducing agents are constantly operating, and are supposed to be the same from year to year.

NEW BRITAIN, BY DR. H. S. COMINGS.

The whole number of deaths returned has been 100. From various sources I have been able to learn the causes of death in 60 cases, as follows: Congestion of the Brain, 1; Suffocation of the Emphy from Nerve, 2; Marasmus, 4; Dysentery, 5; Group, 2; Erysipelas, 1; Dysentery, 12; Consumption, 11; Fever, Infantile, 2; do. Scarlat, 3; do. Typhoid, 2; do. Puerperal, 1; Cholera Infantum, 2; Pneumonia, 2; Cancer, 2; Old Age, 4; and one each from Suicide, Bronchial Catarrh, Pneumonia, Apoplexy, Inflammation, Asphyxia, Gangrene, and Uremia.

The ages of the 100 persons who have died during the year were as follows:

34, (more than one-third) one year and under;

14 over one year and under six, making one-half occurring under six years of age.

The average age of all who have died is 15 years.

" " " 48 Foreigners is 16½ years.

" " " 52 Americans, 28 "

Epidemics. So far as I have been able to learn, New Britain has for many years been more or less subject to epidemic diseases. Its location is perhaps remarkably suited to those diseases which have their origin in local causes. The present site was originally a large swamp interspersed with gravel knolls and hills; the village appears from either of the hills which command it, to be spread out on an open plain. The original elevations have all disappeared in the process of filling up the swamp, but we have still left within the limits of the borough, six swamps which are too low for building purposes, though all but one of these may be said to be well drained. On the east side of the village, about equally distant from the north and south extremity is a peat swamp, from which several hundred cords of peat are annually taken. The pits from which this is removed are allowed to fill with water, and the air in the immediate neighborhood is often sensibly affected by the impurities which are generated; there is unmistakable evidence that the north and north-west winds bear from its surface, slowly and unobserved, the exciting causes of epidemic diseases.

Dysentery. During the months of August and September there were probably not less than 150 cases of dysentery. About one half of them occurred in a small neighborhood south and south-east of the peat swamp. The population of this vicinity is probably one-eighth of the whole village. Of the 12 fatal cases of dysentery reported, 10 occurred here. The causes of disease are often mysterious and unknown, but here is an instance, where the existence of a local cause is too apparent to admit of a doubt, and where an increase of a few hundred dollars is balanced in consequences, by a much greater expenditure for avoidable sickness, and by the loss of at least several valuable lives.

Erysipelas prevailed as an epidemic during the month of March, though

only one case proved fatal. In every instance, so far as I am informed, the infection commenced on the nose, and spread more or less over the face and scalp. Nitrate of silver was applied to arrest the disease in a proportion of the cases, but without much apparent benefit. The most satisfactory results were obtained from the tincture of the sesqui-chloride of iron, in doses of from ten to fifteen drops from four to six times a day.*

Review of Cause of Death. The mortality of children (34 per cent.) seems very large when taken in connection with the fact that no general epidemic has prevailed affecting this class of persons. This alarming mortality may in part be accounted for by the habits of life adopted by our foreign population. The population of New Britain is supposed at the present time to be about 4,000; less than one-third are foreigners, mostly Irish and German; of the fifty deaths under six years of age, thirty-six, or two-thirds, were foreigners; thus the proportion of deaths among the children of foreigners is more than double the mortality among the Americans. The average age at which all the deaths reported, have occurred, is nearly three times as great among Americans as among foreigners, being at ten to twenty-eight.

How shall we account for this disproportionate mortality? In New Britain it can not be referred to location, for a very large proportion of the foreign population reside on "Dublin Hill," to the north-west of the village, which would seem to be much the most healthful location in town; the cause must be sought for in the people. A majority of the families may be found in small, unventilated rooms, which serve the various purposes of cooking, sleeping, &c., and furnish a sty for the pig, and a roost for the chickens. In the midst of all this filth and impure air, a strong susceptibility to disease is soon generated; the children are imperfectly clothed, improperly fed, and miserably cared for when sick. Notwithstanding the fact that our foreigners do not live on an average much more than one-third as long as Americans, it is a popular opinion that they are more healthy and vigorous than ourselves. This opinion is often advanced as a supposed fact to prove that the toughening process of exposing children to cold, and all sorts of irregularities of life, is favorable to longevity. On the contrary, the real facts show us that the duration of life is in proportion to the fidelity with which we observe the laws of health, or a proper regard to ventilation, dress, diet, &c., and it is the glory of our profession to impart to the public that knowledge which should enable our fellow-men to live longer, more successfully, and more happily.

* The use of this agent has I suppose become well known to the profession in erysipelas, but I can not refrain from bearing testimony to the good results which have followed its exhibition in my hands. — R.

THOMPSONVILLE, BY DR. L. S. PEASE.

This village is nearly comprised in the limits of one-half a mile square, and numbers twenty-three hundred inhabitants. Its topography is indicative of healthfulness. Situated on the west bank of the Connecticut, from its shore the land gradually rises to over one hundred and fifty feet from the bed of the river. Through its center, over a rocky and precipitous bottom, runs a small stream, which is accumulated into three several ponds, furnishing the water-power requisite for manufacturing, and in a sanitary point of view is an efficient sewer. The inclination of the surface being toward the Connecticut, and from either side toward this central stream, greatly facilitates the process of draining. The structure of the soil is of a compact homogeneous nature, or red stone covered with sand, through which water easily percolates and flows off.

The surrounding neighborhood has an undulating surface, composed of a sandy soil, resting on beds of clay; no marshy lands or sources of malarial any where exist.

Thus situated on an eminence which overlooks the river, surrounded by no hills or mountains, all the currents of air which sweep over the valley approach it unobstructed. The river adds its influence also, mitigating the intense heat of summer. The water, though what is called "hard," is apparently as pure as ever burst from a fountain.

These physical causes combine to exert an obvious and powerful influence upon the general health, the extent of which it is difficult to estimate; and I hesitate not to say, that so far as natural causes operate upon the physical frame, there is not a more healthy and solid basis in this latitude. Hence it is that malarial diseases are entirely unknown; epidemics are rare and generally of short duration; typhoid fevers are but seldom seen, scarce averaging two per annum in this entire population.

But the many causes which operate so powerfully upon a manufacturing population, we have abundant opportunity and occasion to witness. I will only allude to the most obvious. Our population of twenty-three hundred occupy one hundred and fifty dwelling-houses, which are divided into four hundred tenements. The evil of crowding numbers into small unventilated apartments, and the deleterious effects of inhaling noxious air, are more apparent in a manufacturing population than elsewhere, unless we except the confines of a city, here the evil agents are operating on a large scale. If we consider the length of time in which the children of our village are immersed in an atmosphere not only positively deleterious, but at times absolutely poisonous, together with all their other irregularities; if we follow them from their homes to the school, where I have seen an hundred children crowded into a single room not twenty-five feet square, compelled to breathe an atmosphere decidedly impure; if we still follow them at the age of eleven and twelve, from the school to the workshop, as badly if not worse ventilated, and find them compelled to labor as many hours as the adult, we

can only wonder that the result is not invariably bodily disease or mental imbecility; it is no wonder that if a *cold* is to be had that they are the first to take it, or that if influenza percellis they are the first to have a gripe. It has been obvious to me, that all the epidemic diseases, especially those incident to earlier life, have the virulence of their contagion, and the severity of their symptoms increased by those causes. I can, doubtless, almost be anticipated, when I say that consumption is the scourge of our village; one-quarter of the entire mortality is from this disease. And how can it be otherwise? What is a favorable soil, or genial climate, a pure atmosphere, or a serene sky, when the physical frame is thus overtaxed with labor, and deprived of the life-giving influence of the breath of heaven. The farmer or the horticulturist can not more abundantly effluvia his soil or his plants, to ensure an abundant harvest or a luxuriant growth, than are the seeds of disease thus abundantly nourished.

The causes of death for the year 1855, are as follows: Dropsy, 7; Enteritis, 2; Indigestion, 5; Inflammation of Brain, 2; Marasmus, 2; Consumption, 5; and 1 each of Croup, Convulsions, Cyanosis, Old Age, and Scarlaitina. Total, 25. Of 81 deaths for the three past years, 21 were from Consumption.

ROCKY HILL, BY DR. R. W. GUNSHOLM.

The whole number of deaths during the year, was twenty, returned as follows: Suicide, 1; Stroke, 1; Drowned, 1; Insane, 1; Intoxication, 1; Unknown, 1; Old Age, 1; Dropsy, 1; Cancer, 1; Disease of Heart, 1; Inflammation of Bowels, 1; Kidney and Urinary Passages, 1; Typhus Fever, 1; Pneumonia, 2; Consumption, 5. This is two per cent. of the population. In 1854 the deaths were three per cent.

As regards age, two were under 1 year, four between 10 and 20, (two of which were the cases returned as "stroke," and "drowned,") five between 20 and 40, (one of which was returned as "stroke,") the remaining nine were over 40 years of age; one of the cases of Pneumonia superadded upon Phthisis of long standing. Deducting the cases of accidental death, and considering those of Consumption, and remarking the ages of those deceased from disease, it will be observed that we have a very "clean bill" to present. Although we had about the usual amount of sporadic cases, we may consider that it has been a healthy year, inasmuch as we had no epidemics of any description, and our cases of continued fever were generally of a mild type.

I remark, as last year, the comparative prevalence of Phthisis in my locality; it will be observed that of the causes of death mentioned above, from actual disease, one-third are from consumption. No remarks are needed upon the other cases, except to repeat the regret I expressed last year, that the deaths are not always as accurately returned as it is reasonable to desire.

GRANBY, BY FRANCIS T. ALLEN

The part of the township in which I reside is free from stagnant water, of large marshes, consisting of rugged hills or mountains, and sandy plains, interspersed with rapid streams of living water.

In February Scarlet Fever prevailed as an epidemic through this and several adjoining towns, small children having it mildly, while those from eleven to sixteen were more severely affected. In December this disease again made its appearance, but was mild in its form.

This place has been more healthy during this year than during the two preceding ones, while just across the line, in Massachusetts, we have had more fever than previously.

The Small-Pox appeared in our township in December, but did not come under my observation until this year, so I omit further mention of it for the present.

WETHERSFIELD, BY DR. A. S. WARNER

A remarkable immunity from epidemic or other diseases, is the noticeable feature in the history of our town for the past year. The whole number of deaths was 24, 9 of which were in Newington, and 8 were in the Connecticut State Prison. Among the causes of death, no one was so prevalent as to deserve notice.

Act Amending the Charter.

An Act in addition to an Act entitled "An Act in relation to the Medical Institution of Yale College."

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly, assembled:

That the Act entitled "An Act in relation to the Medical Institution of Yale College," be and hereby is altered by adding to the third section of said act the words following:

Provided, furthermore, that no person shall be appointed as already so a gratuitous course of lectures, unless such person shall have previously attended two courses of lectures in the Medical Institution of Yale College.

Approved, June 29, 1826.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SIXTY-FOURTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

Conn. Medical Society,

MAY, 1857,

WITH A LIST OF MEMBERS.

HARTFORD.

PRESS OF CASE, TIFFANY AND COMPANY.

1857.

Officers of the Society.

BENJAMIN H. CATLIN, M. D., PRESIDENT.
ASHEEL WOODWARD, M. D., VICE-PRESIDENT.
GEORGE O. SUMNER, M. D., TREASURER.
JOSIAH G. BECKWITH, M. D., SECRETARY.

Standing Committees.

Committee of Examination.

BENJAMIN H. CATLIN, M. D., *ex-officio*.
A. T. DOUGLASS, M. D.
CHARLES WOODWARD, M. D.
P. G. ROCKWELL, M. D.
BENJAMIN D. DEAN, M. D.
JAMES WELCH, M. D.

Committee to nominate Physicians to the Retreat for the Insane.

ISAAC G. PORTER, M. D.
DAVID CARY, M. D.
C. B. BROMLEY, M. D.
N. D. IVES, M. D.
GEORGE BLACKMAN, M. D.

Committee to nominate Professors in the Medical Institution of Yale College.

E. M. FOWLER, M. D.
WILLIAM N. CLARK, M. D.
ROBERT HUBBARD, M. D.
L. N. BEARDSLEY, M. D.
JOHN HILL, Jr., M. D.

Standing Committee to confer with State Librarian on Registration.

E. K. HUNT, M. D.
J. G. BECKWITH, M. D.
S. G. HUBBARD, M. D.

PROCEEDINGS.

THE Annual Convention of the President and Fellows, of the Connecticut Medical Society, was held in the city of Hartford, May 27, 1857.

The President called the Convention to order, when the certificates of the election of Fellows were read by the Secretary, and referred to a committee consisting of Drs. Hatcham, Gillette and Welch, who reported the following list of

FELLOWS.

HARTFORD COUNTY.

J. E. Wells, M. D., Hartford.	R. W. Griswold, M. D., Rocky Hill.
R. Fox, M. D., Waterbury.	A. Morrison, M. D., Windsor.
H. C. Gillette, M. D., South Windsor.	

NEW HAVEN COUNTY.

N. B. Ives, M. D., New Haven.	John Smith, M. D., New Haven.
P. A. Jewett, M. D., New Haven.	W. L. Lay, M. D., Resident.
Andrew Castle, M. D., Woodbridge.	

NEW LONDON COUNTY.

Isaac G. Porter, M. D., New London.*	Almon Fuller, M. D., Greenacres.
George E. Palmer, M. D., Stringtown.	Melanchthon Sears, M. D., Colchester.
Blair D. Dean, M. D., Grotonville.	

WINDHAM COUNTY.

Hezekiah Holt, M. D., Pomfret.	*Lewis B. Dixon, M. D., Manay.
Edwin A. Hall, M. D., East Greenwich.	Thos. W. Perry, M. D., Putnam.
John Hall, Jr., M. D., Willimantic.	

FAIRFIELD COUNTY.

*J. McLean, M. D., Norwalk.	*Hulse Blackman, M. D., Greenfield.
Geo. Blackman, M. D., Westport.	Geo. Dyer, M. D., Trumbull.
*Hiram B. Parker, M. D., So. Norwalk.	

LITCHFIELD COUNTY.

H. M. Knight, M. D., Lakeville. D. E. Rootwick, M. D., Litchfield.
 Wm. Deming, Jr., M. D., Litchfield. Jesse Welch, M. D., West Winster.
 Ralph Deming, M. D., Shrewsbury.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY.

Isa. Bachman, M. D., Cranwell. *G. C. H. Gilbert, M. D., Portland.
 Geo. W. Burke, M. D., Middletown.

TOLLAND COUNTY.

Allen Stacey, M. D., Rockville. *S. F. Pomeroy, M. D., Staffordville.
 *Henry S. Dorr, M. D., So. Coventry.

Communications were then read from the Hartford Hospital Society, inviting the Convention to witness the laying of the corner stone of the new Hospital, in said city, at four o'clock, P. M., this day, and also from the Hartford City Medical Society, inviting the Convention to attend a meeting of the Society at half past seven o'clock, this evening, which were read and accepted by the Convention.

The President, Dr. Catlin, then read his annual address,

When Dr. Woodward moved that a vote of thanks be tendered to Dr. Catlin for his able and interesting address, and that he be requested to furnish a copy of the same to the Secretary, for publication with the proceedings of this Convention; adopted unanimously. After which Drs. J. Welch and Nisell were appointed Tellers, and an informal ballot had for the several offices to be filled. The Convention then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, when the following gentlemen were duly re-elected, viz.:

BENJAMIN H. CATLIN, M. D., PRESIDENT.
 ASHBEL WOODWARD, M. D., VICE PRESIDENT.
 GEORGE O. SUMNER, M. D., TREASURER.
 JOSIAH G. BECKWITH, M. D., SECRETARY.

The President then appointed the following gentlemen a Committee on the unfinished business of the last year, viz.: Drs. Jewett, B. D. Dean, J. Hill, Jr.

The Committee reported that they could find none; report accepted and Committee discharged.

Communications being in order, were then received from Litchfield

Co. Medical Society, being resolutions adopted at the county meeting last held, on the subject of Idiotcy.

From Hartford Co. Medical Society, being the Sanitary reports received by them from some of the towns in said county on said subject; also, a dissertation read before said Society by P. M. Hastings, M. D., and the resolutions adopted by the Society on the subject of Registration.

On motion of Dr. Ralph Deming,

The Sanitary reports from Hartford County were referred to a Committee of one from a county.

On motion of Dr. Jewett,

The resolutions on Registration were referred to a committee of three, to report thereon.

Also, the resolutions of Litchfield County Medical Society on Idiotcy, to a committee of three.

Also, that the dissertation of Dr. Hastings be referred to a committee of three.

The Chair appointed Drs. Knight, Ives, and Barker, said committee on the Litchfield county resolutions.

Drs. Fox, R. Deming and Barker, on Hartford county resolutions on Registration.

Drs. Ives, Welch and Puffer, on Dr. Hastings' dissertation.

On motion of Dr. Dean,

A committee of three were appointed on the address of the President.

Drs. Dean, Bonwick and Blackburn were appointed such committee.

The report of the Treasurer was then read, accepted, and referred to a committee consisting of Drs. Morrison, Perry and E. A. Hill.

Abstract of Treasurer's Report.

Cash in Treasury,	-	\$208.53
Due from Clerks,	\$1,942.41	
Deduct, say two-fifths of this for bad debts, statements, commissions, &c.,	416.91	
	<hr/>	625.45
Total Cash and due from Clerks,		\$633.98
The Society owes for delinquent contributions,		428.37
Leaves Balance in favor of Society,		<hr/> \$205.61

The Auditing Committee, through their chairman, Dr. Morrison, reported that they had examined the above account of the Treasurer, and found it correct.

Report accepted and committee discharged.

Des. Holt, Jewett, Wells, Dean, Dyer, R. Deming, and Skinner were appointed a committee on Honorary Degrees and Honorary Members.

Drs. Ives, Geo. Dyer, B. D. Dean, King, Holt and Welch, were appointed committee on gratuitous students.

Drs. Castle, Wm. Deming, Jr., and M. Stearns, on Delectations.

Drs. Gillette, Lay, Dean, J. Hill, Jr., Blackman, R. Deming, Burke, and Skinner, on Sanitary Reports of Hartford County.

The Convention then adjourned to half past two o'clock, P. M.

Half past two o'clock, P. M.

The Convention came together and were called to order.

On motion of Dr. Jewett, the election of the Standing Committees was postponed until to-morrow morning.

On motion, the report of the committee to whom was referred the resolutions of the Litchfield County Medical Society, through their chairman, Dr. H. M. Knight, was then made to the Convention. The committee reported in favor of the adoption of said resolutions and the appointment of a committee of three to memorialize the Legislature now in session in conformity to said resolutions. The report was accepted, the resolutions adopted, and the resolutions were presented to the Legislature, and referred to the Joint Select Committee on Humane Institutions.

On motion of Dr. Beckwith,

Resolved, That whenever the physicians of New Haven deem it expedient to invite the American Medical Association to meet in that city, the State Medical Society will join in the invitation.

Resolution adopted.

Drs. Griswold, Nicoll, Porter, E. A. Hill, Blackman, Wm. Deming, Jr., Burke and Pomeroy, were appointed to report the names of delegates to represent the Connecticut State Medical Society in the American Medical Association, at its next annual meeting, in 1858.

Dr. P. G. Rockwell then presented an invitation to the Convention to hold their next annual convention in the city of Waterbury.

On motion of Dr. Jewett,

The invitation was accepted, and the Convention resolved to hold the next annual convention in the city of Waterbury, on the fourth Wednesday of May, 1848.

Dr. Porter, from the Committee on Graduating Students, reported that Samuel C. Chapin had been returned by the Clerk of the New Haven County Medical Society, and H. Webster Jones had been returned as duly elected from Fairfield County Medical Society, that the remaining counties in the State had made no elections for graduating students, as appeared from the examination of their returns to the Secretary; and further, that there were no candidates recommended to the committee having the requisite qualifications; the committee recommended, therefore, that the remaining counties remain vacant the ensuing year.

Report accepted and Committee discharged.

Dr. Dana, from the Committee to whom was referred the Address of the President at the opening of the Convention, made a report which was, on motion, accepted.

The Committee reported,

That so much of said address as relates to the organization of the State Medical Society, be referred to a committee of three, who shall perfect a system of organization for the Society during the ensuing year, and report at the next annual convention.

That so much as relates to Sanitary reports and resolutions be referred to the Committee already appointed for that purpose, on the Hartford County Sanitary reports.

And, further, that that portion of the address referring to the resolutions of the American Medical Association be referred to a committee of three.

After the acceptance of the above reports, the Convention, after discussion in which it appeared that several committees had already been appointed by previous conventions, on the subject of a Constitution and By-Laws for the State Medical Society, and said Conventions had uniformly regarded any further organization as unnecessary, and that the appointment of another committee on said subject by this Convention would not induce a succeeding Convention to adopt any plan of organization in alteration of our present system under the act of incorporation of our present Medical Society, the Convention unanim-

only resolved not to appoint a committee to form a Constitution for the State Society as recommended by the Committee.

The Convention voted to refer that portion relating to Sanitary reports to the Committee already appointed on the Hartford County Sanitary reports, as recommended by the Committee, and also to appoint a committee of three on the resolutions of the American Medical Association, as recommended.

Dr. Holt, from the Committee on Honorary Degrees and Honorary Members, reported the name of Dr. Ralph Deming, of Stamford, for the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Medicine, Dr. Thomas C. Brinsmade, of Troy, N. Y., Dr. George Chandler, of Worcester, Mass., and Dr. Gilman Kimball, of Lowell, Mass., for Honorary Members.

The report of the Committee was accepted and the Committee discharged.

The Convention then proceeded to ballot for the gentlemen recommended by the Committee and they were unanimously elected, as follows, viz.:

Dr. Ralph Deming to be recommended by the Convention, to the President and Fellows of Yale College, for the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Medicine, and also Drs. Thomas C. Brinsmade, George Chandler and Gilman Kimball as Honorary Members of the Connecticut State Medical Society.

On motion of Dr. Jewett,

Dr. Benjamin D. Dean read his Dissertation in conformity to his appointment as Dissertator to the present Convention—the subject being the “Medical Profession.”

On motion of Dr. Beckwith,

The thanks of the Convention were tendered to Dr. Dean for his able and interesting Address, and it was further resolved that a copy be requested for publication with the proceedings of the Convention.

Unanimously adopted.

Dr. Fox, from the Committee to whom was referred the resolutions of the Hartford County Medical Society on the subject of Registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths, reported,

That they consider it important that the State Medical Society should identify itself with the practical operation of the Law upon this subject, and would therefore recommend that a standing committee of three be appointed by this body to confer and co-operate with the State Librarian, as necessity may require and report to the annual sessions of this Convention.

Report accepted and resolution adopted.

Drs. John F. Wells, J. G. Porter and Thomas W. Perry were then appointed a Committee on that portion of the President's address relating to the resolutions of the American Medical Association.

The report of Dr. Griswold, from the Committee on the Nomination of Delegates to the American Medical Association, was then made, and on motion, recommitted.

Dr. Bostwick, from the Committee to nominate Discernator to the next Convention, reported the names of Dr. Henry W. Bond, of Litchfield, a Discernator and Dr. Rufus Baker, of Deep River, as substitute. Report accepted and the gentlemen were severally appointed as recommended.

Dr. Nicoll, from the Committee on Delegates to the American Medical Association, reported the names of

Dr. Edward W. Hatch, of West Meriden.

" A. B. Halle, of Norwich.

" Charles Woodward, of Middletown.

" Edward Brisley, of Hartford.

Report accepted, and the Gentlemen were appointed to represent the Connecticut State Medical Society at the next annual Convention of the American Medical Association, to be held at Washington, D. C., in May, 1858.

Adjourned to 8 o'clock, A. M., Thursday morning.

Thursday Morning, 8 o'clock, A. M.

The Convention was called to order by the President.

An informal communication having been received from Dr. Ellsworth, of Hartford, in reference to certain statements made on Wednesday, to the Convention, in regard to an infringement of medical police, by him in consultation with practitioners who were not members of the Society, and Dr. Ellsworth having denied and explained such allegations, on motion of Dr. Jewett.

Resolved, That P. W. Ellsworth be requested to furnish the Convention at the meeting in Waterbury, with an explanation of the matter referred to in his communication.

Adopted.

Resolved, That the Secretary be requested to furnish Dr. Ellsworth with a copy of the above resolution.

Adopted.

On motion of Dr. Jewett,

Resolved, That Wm. H. Sage, of Unionville, be expelled from this Society, under the by-law which makes it the duty of the Medical Society to expel any member notoriously in the practice of Homoeopathy, Hydropathy, or any other form of quackery. Adopted. And Wm. H. Sage was expelled under said by-law from the Society.

On motion of Dr. Beckwith,

Resolved, That there be added to the Committees usually appointed by the Convention, a committee of three, to receive the reports from the several counties on deceased members, with such biographical notices as may have been read before the several county meetings during the year ending April first, in each preceding year.

Resolution adopted.

On motion of Dr. Jewett, the Convention then proceeded to fill the vacancies in the several Standing Committees, when the following gentlemen were elected to fill vacancies in the Committee of Examination, viz.:

P. G. Rockwell, M. D., to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Nathan S. Pike, M. D.; Benjamin D. Dean, M. D., and James Welch, M. D., to fill the regular vacancies in said committee.

N. B. Ives, M. D., and George Blackman, M. D., to fill the vacancies in the Committee to nominate Physician to the Retreat for the Insane.

L. N. Boardley, and M. D., John Hill, Jr., M. D., to fill vacancies in the Committee to nominate Professors to the Medical Institution of Yale College.

E. K. Hunt, M. D., J. G. Beckwith, M. D., and S. G. Hubbard, M. D., were appointed Committee under the resolution adopted by the present Convention to appoint a Standing Committee to confer and co-operate with State Librarian on the Registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths.

On motion of Dr. Ives,

A delegation of one from a County was appointed to attend the Annual Convention of the Massachusetts Medical Society in June, 1858.

On motion of Dr. Jewett, the several Counties were instructed to nominate and report the names of the Delegates selected by them.

The following gentlemen were reported by the several Counties as selected by them, viz.:

Hartford County,	S. B. Bensonford,
New Haven "	N. B. Ives,
New London "	Benjamin D. Dean,
Windham "	Hiram Babb,
Fairfield "	George Dyer,
Litchfield "	James Welch,
Middlesex "	Asa H. King,
Tolland "	Abner Skinner.

And they were accordingly appointed by the Convention.

Resolved, That said delegates, in case of inability to fulfill their appointments, have power to substitute other members from their several counties to fill vacancies arising thereby.

On motion of Dr. Dean,

Resolved, That a tax of one dollar and fifty cents be laid upon the members of this Society, payable on the first day of June next.

Adopted.

On motion of Dr. Dean,

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention be rendered to the Hartford City Medical Society, for their generous hospitality to the members of this Convention, during its present session.

Adopted.

On motion of Dr. Sumner,

Resolved, That the Clerks of the several County Medical Societies be directed to furnish the Treasurer with the names of the Fellows elected at their Annual County Meetings, as were required of them, to the Secretary, and in addition thereto.

Adopted.

Des. Russell, Berkwith and Jewett were appointed a committee to receive reports and examine biographical notices of deceased members, for the past year.

Dr. Catlin, from the Committee of Examination, reported the proceedings of the Standing Committee of Examinations, and the names of the graduates, with the subjects of the Theses presented and defended by them at the annual commencement in January last, with the appointments made by them, &c.

Report accepted.

The Standing Committee on the nomination of Physicians to Re-

treat for the Insane and Professors to Yale College, having performed no duties, (no vacancies having occurred,) made no report.

Dr. Jewett, from the Committee on Deceased Members and Biographical Notices, reported that the notices in the hands of the Secretary, and the several reports of deaths occurring in the several counties, as reported to the Secretary by the several Clerks, be printed with the proceedings.

Report accepted.

Dr. Castle, from the Committee on Debentures, made a report which was accepted and ordered to be paid.

On motion of Dr. Jewett,

That the several county meetings be requested to investigate the subject of members of this Society consulting with irregular practitioners, and enforce the by-law in such case made and provided.

Passed.

Dr. Gillette, from the Committee on Sanitary Reports, made the following report:

That in the opinion of the committee, sanitary reports merit the continued attention of this Medical Convention, and we recommend that the Secretary of the State Medical Society be requested to publish in each of said reports now laid before this Convention, as he may deem proper, and that we recommend to the several county societies to continue such reports.

Report accepted.

And on motion of Dr. Jewett, the names of Drs. Bostwick and W. Denning, Jr., were added as committee with the Secretary, as a committee of publication on said reports.

Dr. Ives, from the committee to whom was referred the dissertation of Dr. Hastings, reported that they had examined said paper and recommended that the Secretary publish the same with the proceedings of the Convention.

Dr. Skinner moved that the dissertation be referred to the same committee with sanitary reports for examination, and be subject to their discretion whether to publish the whole or part thereof.

Previous question moved and lost.

Amendment lost.

The report was then accepted and the dissertation ordered to be printed.

On motion of Dr. Jewett,

Resolved, That there be appointed a Standing Committee on Publication, to whom all communications be referred from the several counties.

Dr. Bodrick offered an amendment that one from a county be substituted. Amendment lost.

The resolution was then adopted.

Des. Gordon W. Russell, Philip A. Jewett and George W. Burke were appointed said committee.

Dr. Wells, from the committee to whom was referred the resolution of the American Medical Association, made the following report:

Resolved, That we approve and endorse the recommendations of the American Medical Convention in their transactions for 1854, p. 375, to county societies, in relation to the duty of each member to keep written notes of his practice and to report from time to time such statements as shall seem important and interesting, with a view for publication with the annual proceedings of the State Society; and in furtherance of this measure we recommend to the county societies that at their next annual meeting a committee be appointed to receive such reports as may be offered.

Resolved, That when the county societies have taken such action as shall result in the publication of reports from their members, that then this Convention will appoint a committee whose duty it shall be to present an abstract for publication in manner and form proposed in the original recommendation.

On motion of Dr. Gillette,

Resolved, That it be recommended to the several counties that a committee of one from a county be appointed to obtain the biographies of such physicians as have deceased in the State of Connecticut, of whom no biography has been published, and the medical incidents which have occurred during their lives, more particularly in reference to our ancient physicians.

Resolution adopted.

Under this resolution the following gentlemen were nominated by the several counties, and their nominations confirmed by this Convention, viz.: for

Hartford County,	Dr. Gillette,
New Haven County,	Dr. G. O. Sumner,
New London County,	Dr. Richard P. Tracy,
Windham County,	Dr. Wm. H. Cogswell,
Fairfield County,	Dr. Geo. Blackman,
Litchfield County,	Dr. D. E. Eastwick,
Middlesex County,	Dr. G. W. Barker,
Tolland County,	Dr. A. Skinner,

Ordered by the Convention, that 1000 copies of the Proceedings be published, the 400 additional copies to be distributed to the several counties.

There being no further business, the Convention then adjourned sine die.

Attest,

JOSIAH G. BECKWITH, *Secretary*.

Members of the Society.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

JAMES JACKSON,	Boston, Mass.
*JOHN C. WARREN,	Boston, Mass.
BENJAMIN HILLMAN,	New Haven.
*THEODORE KOMYRN DECK,	Albany, N. Y.
EDWARD DELAFIELD,	New York.
JOHN DELAMATER,	Cleveland, Ohio.
JACOB BIGELOW,	Boston, Mass.
WALTER CHANNING,	Boston, Mass.
HENRY MITCHELL,	Newark, N. Y.
NATHAN KYN OSMITH,	Baltimore, Md.
VALENTINE MOTT,	New York.
REUBEN D. MUSSET,	Greenwich, Conn.
WILLIAM TULLY,	Springfield, Mass.
RICHMOND BROWNELL,	Providence, R. I.
WILLIAM BEAUMONT,	St. Louis, Mo.
SAMUEL HENRY DICKSON,	Chattanooga, S. C.
STEPHEN W. WILLIAMS,	Greenfield, Mass.
WILLARD PARKER,	New York.
BENJAMIN TICKNOR,	U. S. Navy.
ALDEN MARCH,	Albany, N. Y.
CHARLES A. LEE,	New York.
DAVID R. C. H. SMITH,	Providence, R. I.
HENRY D. DUSLEY,	New York.
J. MARION SYMS,	New York.
JOHN WATSON,	New York.
FRANK B. HAMILTON,	Genoa, N. Y.
ROBERT WATTS,	New York.
J. V. C. SMITH,	Rome, Mass.
O. WENDELL HOLMES,	Boston, Mass.
JOSEPH SARGENT,	Worcester, Mass.
MASON P. CUNSWELL,	Albany, N. Y.
FOSTER DOOPER,	East River, Mass.
THOMAS C. BRINSMIDE,	Troy, N. Y.
GEORGE CHANDLER,	Worcester, Mass.
GILMAN KIMBALL,	Lowell, Mass.

ORDINARY MEMBERS.

The names of those Members who are exempt from taxation by age, are in italics; the names of those who have been Presidents of the Society, are in capitals.

HARTFORD COUNTY.

J. L. CHILD, M. D., Chairman.

WILLIAM R. BROWNE, M. D., Clerk.

HARTFORD, Henry Holmes, Samuel B. Rosefield, George E. Hawley, Gustav W. Russell, David Cary, P. W. Ellsworth, Benjamin Rogers, C. E. Hunt, John S. Butler, J. C. Jackson, A. W. Browne, Thomas Miner, H. Griffin, William Foster, John F. Wells, William R. Browne, P. M. Hastings, S. C. Perkins, J. S. Curtis, Edward Denney, Stephen H. Fuller, John Taylor. — *City.*

Berlin, E. Roschlag, *do.*
New Britain, Samuel Hart, Henry Hawley, E. D. Balowick, E. M. Cowing, S. W. Blue.

Bloomfield, Henry Gray,
Bristol, Joseph W. Carey, John S. Moody.

Bridgewater, William Edson, M. Cannon, Colburnville, Russell B. Tiffany,
East Hartford, Seth L. Child, Clarence M. Haysworth, H. K. Chaffee,
East Windsor, Hiram Warren,
Broad Brook, Mayne L. Peck.

Windsor, Peter, Joseph Chaffee,
Easton, J. P. Converse, A. L. Smith, H. J. Pratt.

Thompsonville, J. Bailey French, A. S. Pease.

Vernonville, Asahel Thompson.

PHILIPPI, J. A. Moody,
Glastonbury, Clinton Brown,
North Glastonbury, C. E. Hammond,

Litchfield, J. Andrus, Henry Gilbert,
Eastbury, Nelson Newking.

Uxbridge, Joseph C. Small,
East Granby, Chester Howden.

West Granby, James D. Wilson,
North Granby, Francis F. Allen.

Mantoloking, W. C. Williams, W. Scott.

Rosier Hill, R. W. Griswold,
Somers, Rudolph A. White.

Tauntonville, George W. Sanford,
Suttonville, James S. Barnes, S. H.

Dyington, F. A. Hart,
South Windsor, Ebenezer C. Gilman,

H. Goodrich,
East Windsor Hill, Wm. Wood, Sidney Rockwell.

Eastonville, Arno Ring,
Terryville, ——— Whiteaker.

West Suffield, O. W. Kellogg,
Waterburyville, E. F. Cooke, A. S.

Warner, R. Fox,
West Hartford, Edward Tracy.

Windsor, William S. Paine, A. Moore,
Sutton, Samuel A. Wilson, U.S. Butler.

Windsor Locks, Samuel W. Skinner,
Piquetville, Oliver B. Gilgus.

NEW HAYEN COUNTY.

PLINY A. JEWETT, M. D., Chairman.

JESSE NIXON, M. D., Clerk.

- NEW HAYEN, All Free, T. P. Berry, Jonathan Knight, Samuel Ponderson, Caleb W. Austin, Charles Hurlington, A. S. Mayson, Charles Rucker, Nicholas E. Lee, E. H. Fisher, J. B. Tilden, Levi Dyer, Pliny A. Jewett, D. L. Daggett, George O. Shannon, D. A. Tyler, Henry Eason, E. A. Park, S. G. Haddock, W. J. Whiting, H. W. E. Hathorn, C. A. Lindsay, Warrington Hooker, T. P. Dyer, Jr., Samuel Lloyd, H. L. Eddy, J. K. Dumas, John Noyes, Miss C. White, Leonard J. Smith, C. L. Dyer, David E. Smith, Francis M. Hilly, A. H. Chandler, Edward Fiskley, O. W. Park.
- NEW HAYEN, C. E. Thompson, W. M. White, Lyman Parker, Ezra Smith.
- BERKLEY, Amos C. Woodworth.
- BLANDFORD, William L. Lee, H. V. C. Hinson.
- BOYLE BRAYSON, Sheldon Boudley.
- CANTON, A. J. Daggett, Noah E. Wilson, W. C. Williams.
- DEER, C. H. Fisher.
- ANDOVER, H. L. Pomeroy.
- BIRMINGHAM, Anthony Boudley, T. Dumas.
- CLARK, E. D. Smith.
- HAMPDEN, Sheldon C. Johnson, Joshua Kendall, Thomas Soddard.
- NORTH MAIN, Russell F. Stillman.
- CHANDLER, Joel Goodell, Abram Thickett.
- MILTON, D. M. Wells.
- WEST MAIN, B. H. CATLIN, Edward W. Hatch, Everett Boudley.
- YOUNG, C. H. McCarty.
- MILTON, Eliot Allen, L. N. Boudley.
- NEWTON, J. D. Meyer, Henry Pomeroy.
- CHANDLER, Lewis Boudley.
- CHANDLER, H. W. Pomeroy.
- SOUTHERN, A. D. Boudley.
- South Blandford, N. C. Boudley.
- WATERBURY, Nelson Smith.
- WATERBURY, M. C. Leveson, D. L. Dyer, John Dumas, George E. Parker, Shamus Boudley, F. H. Rockwell, Thomas Doughty.
- WATERBURY, Isaac Goodell, Andrew Dyer.

NEW LONDON COUNTY.

JOSEPH COMSTOCK, M. D., Chairman.

BRADLEY D. DEX, M. D., Clerk.

- NEW LONDON, Dyer T. Boudley, Nathaniel S. Perkins, James Morgan, Isaac G. Foster, William W. Hunt, Seth Smith, D. P. Francis, Albert Nelson, Robert A. Mowbray.
- NEWTON, Richard P. Tracy, Everett Ogden, Elijah Dyer, Eliza Philmore, Edwin Boudley, Benjamin D. Dyer, John F. Fisher, Abner Fisher, Henry W. Litch, David G. Smith, A. H. Hall, Lewis S. Comstock, Barker, Samuel Johnson.
- CANTON, Collier H. Parsons, Fredrick Morgan, Melancthon Dyer.
- KEY LANE, John A. Smith, Aaron F. Perkins.
- GRANVILLE, Alfred Woodhull.
- GREENE, Arvid City, William Souderton, Benjamin Dyer.
- NORRIS, A. T. Doughty.
- LEWIS, Joseph Comstock, Ralph P. Goslin.
- LEWIS, Richard Rogers.
- NORTH LANE, Wm. W. J. Warren.
- MILFORD, John C. Boudley.
- CHANDLER, Samuel E. Boudley.
- FRANK, Everett B. Boudley.
- SALMON, Nathaniel Froese.
- SUNNYSIDE, William Hyde, George E. Boudley, William Hyde, Jr.
- HYDE, Harro Manning.
- HYDE BRIDGE, E. F. Coats, A. W. Coats.

E. MIDDLEBROOK, M. B. CLAUSSON

H. L. W. Hensley, M. D., Chgo.

FAIRBANKS, S. P. V. R. Two Rooms.
Greensboro, RUFUS HARRISMAN.
Seaford, James Cheswood.
BRIDGEPORT, D. H. Nash, Frederick J.
Judson, I. W. Harris, William R.
Nash, Helen Hubbard, H. S. Brin-
golf.
BRIDGEPORT, A. L. Williams.
DORCHESTER, R. R. Boland, T. P. Brin-
golf.
Kennebunk, George Hubbard.
HELENBURG, James W. Shelton.

NEW ORLEANS, Samuel S. Noyes, Lewis
Hickman
NEWARK, John A. McLean, Iry Cong-
reg.
NEWTON, N. B. Hought, Second
Baptist, Lewis Hickman
PARSONS, William T. Shalom.
TOWNSEND, ELIZABETH MIDDLE-
BROOK, George Dyer.
WATERBURY, George Blackburn, Third
S. Baptist.

DOI: 10.1016/j.jmb.2005.08.011

WM. H. COGSWELL, M. D., Chairman.

TABLE II. *W*_{max} and *M* for *Chia*.

BROOKLYN, James H. Wyntoun, Will
Woodbridge.
AMSTERDAM, John H. Smeets.
CAMBRIDGE, Elijah Baldwin, Joseph
Palmer.
DARTMOUTH, David Wilson.
HARTFORD, Dyer Hager.
KILLBUCK, Dapworth, James Hunt-
ress.
South Killbuck, Daniel A. Street.
East Killbuck, E. A. Hall.
HYDE PARK, David C. Halliday.
and Hockham, Sophia C. Gregg.
PATERA, Henry W. Brough, Thomas
W. Perry.
PATERA, WM. H. CORNWELL.

Murphy, Lewis C. Inman, Frank De-
 zure
 Plawfield, Myron, Charles H. Rogers
 Portney, Brian Holt, Lester Wil-
 liams
 Pringle, William A. Smith
 Tinsdale, Lowell Robinson, John
 McInnes
 Valavien, Mervyn Campbell
 Weymann, Chas. Beat, Dr. Wm C.
 Langley
 Wyman, John Hill, Jr.
 Wyland, Calvin E. Brander
 Wynn, North, Ann Wynn
 Zach Woodstock, Lorenza Myers
 Zett Woodford, Missus Bradford

11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26. 27. 28. 29. 30. 31. 32. 33. 34. 35. 36. 37. 38. 39. 40. 41. 42. 43. 44. 45. 46. 47. 48. 49. 50. 51. 52. 53. 54. 55. 56. 57. 58. 59. 60. 61. 62. 63. 64. 65. 66. 67. 68. 69. 70. 71. 72. 73. 74. 75. 76. 77. 78. 79. 80. 81. 82. 83. 84. 85. 86. 87. 88. 89. 90. 91. 92. 93. 94. 95. 96. 97. 98. 99. 100. 101. 102. 103. 104. 105. 106. 107. 108. 109. 110. 111. 112. 113. 114. 115. 116. 117. 118. 119. 120. 121. 122. 123. 124. 125. 126. 127. 128. 129. 130. 131. 132. 133. 134. 135. 136. 137. 138. 139. 140. 141. 142. 143. 144. 145. 146. 147. 148. 149. 150. 151. 152. 153. 154. 155. 156. 157. 158. 159. 160. 161. 162. 163. 164. 165. 166. 167. 168. 169. 170. 171. 172. 173. 174. 175. 176. 177. 178. 179. 180. 181. 182. 183. 184. 185. 186. 187. 188. 189. 190. 191. 192. 193. 194. 195. 196. 197. 198. 199. 200. 201. 202. 203. 204. 205. 206. 207. 208. 209. 210. 211. 212. 213. 214. 215. 216. 217. 218. 219. 220. 221. 222. 223. 224. 225. 226. 227. 228. 229. 230. 231. 232. 233. 234. 235. 236. 237. 238. 239. 240. 241. 242. 243. 244. 245. 246. 247. 248. 249. 250. 251. 252. 253. 254. 255. 256. 257. 258. 259. 260. 261. 262. 263. 264. 265. 266. 267. 268. 269. 270. 271. 272. 273. 274. 275. 276. 277. 278. 279. 280. 281. 282. 283. 284. 285. 286. 287. 288. 289. 290. 291. 292. 293. 294. 295. 296. 297. 298. 299. 300. 301. 302. 303. 304. 305. 306. 307. 308. 309. 310. 311. 312. 313. 314. 315. 316. 317. 318. 319. 320. 321. 322. 323. 324. 325. 326. 327. 328. 329. 330. 331. 332. 333. 334. 335. 336. 337. 338. 339. 340. 341. 342. 343. 344. 345. 346. 347. 348. 349. 350. 351. 352. 353. 354. 355. 356. 357. 358. 359. 360. 361. 362. 363. 364. 365. 366. 367. 368. 369. 370. 371. 372. 373. 374. 375. 376. 377. 378. 379. 380. 381. 382. 383. 384. 385. 386. 387. 388. 389. 390. 391. 392. 393. 394. 395. 396. 397. 398. 399. 400. 401. 402. 403. 404. 405. 406. 407. 408. 409. 410. 411. 412. 413. 414. 415. 416. 417. 418. 419. 420. 421. 422. 423. 424. 425. 426. 427. 428. 429. 430. 431. 432. 433. 434. 435. 436. 437. 438. 439. 440. 441. 442. 443. 444. 445. 446. 447. 448. 449. 450. 451. 452. 453. 454. 455. 456. 457. 458. 459. 460. 461. 462. 463. 464. 465. 466. 467. 468. 469. 470. 471. 472. 473. 474. 475. 476. 477. 478. 479. 480. 481. 482. 483. 484. 485. 486. 487. 488. 489. 490. 491. 492. 493. 494. 495. 496. 497. 498. 499. 500. 501. 502. 503. 504. 505. 506. 507. 508. 509. 510. 511. 512. 513. 514. 515. 516. 517. 518. 519. 520. 521. 522. 523. 524. 525. 526. 527. 528. 529. 530. 531. 532. 533. 534. 535. 536. 537. 538. 539. 540. 541. 542. 543. 544. 545. 546. 547. 548. 549. 550. 551. 552. 553. 554. 555. 556. 557. 558. 559. 560. 561. 562. 563. 564. 565. 566. 567. 568. 569. 570. 571. 572. 573. 574. 575. 576. 577. 578. 579. 580. 581. 582. 583. 584. 585. 586. 587. 588. 589. 590. 591. 592. 593. 594. 595. 596. 597. 598. 599. 600. 601. 602. 603. 604. 605. 606. 607. 608. 609. 610. 611. 612. 613. 614. 615. 616. 617. 618. 619. 620. 621. 622. 623. 624. 625. 626. 627. 628. 629. 630. 631. 632. 633. 634. 635. 636. 637. 638. 639. 640. 641. 642. 643. 644. 645. 646. 647. 648. 649. 650. 651. 652. 653. 654. 655. 656. 657. 658. 659. 660. 661. 662. 663. 664. 665. 666. 667. 668. 669. 670. 671. 672. 673. 674. 675. 676. 677. 678. 679. 680. 681. 682. 683. 684. 685. 686. 687. 688. 689. 690. 691. 692. 693. 694. 695. 696. 697. 698. 699. 700. 701. 702. 703. 704. 705. 706. 707. 708. 709. 710. 711. 712. 713. 714. 715. 716. 717. 718. 719. 720. 721. 722. 723. 724. 725. 726. 727. 728. 729. 730. 731. 732. 733. 734. 735. 736. 737. 738. 739. 740. 741. 742. 743. 744. 745. 746. 747. 748. 749. 750. 751. 752. 753. 754. 755. 756. 757. 758. 759. 760. 761. 762. 763. 764. 765. 766. 767. 768. 769. 770. 771. 772. 773. 774. 775. 776. 777. 778. 779. 780. 781. 782. 783. 784. 785. 786. 787. 788. 789. 790. 791. 792. 793. 794. 795. 796. 797. 798. 799. 800. 801. 802. 803. 804. 805. 806. 807. 808. 809. 810. 811. 812. 813. 814. 815. 816. 817. 818. 819. 820. 821. 822. 823. 824. 825. 826. 827. 828. 829. 830. 831. 832. 833. 834. 835. 836. 837. 838. 839. 840. 841. 842. 843. 844. 845. 846. 847

WILLIAM WOOLCOTT, M. D., Chairman

Henry W. Hens, M. D., Clerk

Lecturers are: Joseph H. Bicknell, Gen.
Seymour D. E. Eastwick, E. O'Brien,
H. W. Ruel, Wm. Deering, Jr.
South Farm, Garry H. Miles.

CLINTON, Thomas H. Smith, A. S.
Wright.
South Carolina, John A. Gilmer.
Connecticut, Basil H. North.
West Carolina, Samuel H. Gold.

CHANDLER, Seth Paine.
 Gage's Bridge, Jonathan H. St. John.
 DENNIS, A. H. Bailey.
 HARRISON, G. B. Miller.
 EAST, Felt Boudrey.
 NEW HARRISON, Amiel Williams.
 BRIDGEMAN, Horace Jackson.
 NARRON, William W. Welch, John
 H. Welch.
 PLYMOUTH, Samuel T. Salisbury.
 PLYMOUTH, William Woodford.
 RICHARD, Wynne Davies.
 SALMON, John Village, C. B. Mather.

Zachville, Benjamin Welch, Wm. M.
 Knight.
 NEW HARRISON, South, A. E. Butler.
 SALMON, Ralph Downing, — Knight.
 TOWNSEND, Hildredville, Everett Ran-
 cey, J. W. Phelps.
 WARREN, Jas. B. Dickinson.
 WOODVILLE, Maudy Peters.
 WILKINSON, E. M. Fowler.
 NEW PRISON, Sidney H. Lyman, Ed-
 ward P. Lyman.
 WINCHESTER, West Winsted, James
 Welch, J. W. Dorell.
 WOODMAN, Charles H. Wells.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY.

ASA M. HOLT, M. D., Chairman.

ELDER B. Nye, M. D., Clerk.

MINNEAPOLIS, Joseph Barrett, Charles
 Woodward, Wm. E. Casey, Eliza
 J. Nye, George W. Butler, Miss C.
 Burns.
 ORTHMAN, East Hampton, Francis G.
 Edgson.
 MIDDLEBURY, A. B. Wyllinton.
 CANTON, S. W. Tison.
 CLINTON, Dennis H. Hubbard.
 FARMINGTON, Lee Holbrook.

DURHAM, R. W. Hallenbeck.
 EAST HAMPTON, Jas. M. Hob, Doro
 Williams.
 HAMMAM, Edwin Belmont.
 FARMINGTON, George O. Jarvis, O. C. H.
 Gilbert.
 SALMON, Asa H. King.
 DAY, Albert, Rufus Baker.
 OLD SALMON, Ezra, Alexander H.
 Hoag, Frederick W. Shepard.

TOLLAND COUNTY.

NORMAN BRIGHAM, M. D., Chairman.

GARRETT H. PRATT, M. D., Clerk.

TOLLAND, Oliver K. Adams, Gilbert H.
 Postall.
 BURLINGTON, Charles F. Sanders.
 URBANA, North, Elmer Maud.
 St. Anthony, T. Danck, H. S. Don.
 ELLINGTON, Bertha Don.
 HERRIN, JOHN K. PETERS, Oliver
 C. Wain.
 MANTONVILLE, North, Norman Brigham,
 W. H. Richardson.

South Mansfield, Carl Reid.
 SOUTHERN, Orion Wood, ELMER E.
 Davidson.
 STANTON, East, Wm. S. Clark.
 STANTON, West, Joshua C. Budget.
 URBAN, E. Leasley.
 VANDER, John E. Lewis.
 ROCKVILLE, Allen Skinner.
 WILLIAMSON, Francis L. Dickinson.
 STANTONVILLE, Stephen F. Postrey.
 STANTON SPRINGS, C. B. Newton.

SUMMARY OF ORDINARY MEMBERS FOR 1866, WITH THE
DEATHS IN THE YEAR ENDING APRIL 1, 1866

| | Taxable | Not Taxable | Total | Deaths |
|--------------------|---------|-------------|-------|--------|
| Hartford County, | 70 | 8 | 78 | 3 |
| New Haven County, | 78 | 10 | 88 | 2 |
| New London County, | 31 | 12 | 43 | 0 |
| Fairfield County, | 25 | 7 | 32 | 3 |
| Windham County, | 77 | 7 | 84 | 1 |
| Litchfield County, | 28 | 1 | 29 | 0 |
| Middlesex County, | 28 | 2 | 30 | 1 |
| Tolland County, | 16 | 7 | 23 | 0 |
| Total, | 391 | 52 | 443 | 10 |

NOTE. Former Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society, all permanent members of the annual Convention, having the privilege of attending all meetings, and performing all the duties of attending members, except that of voting their votes. And all members of the Society are invited, by the By-Laws, to be present at all meetings of the Convention.

DEATHS OF MEMBERS DURING THE YEAR ENDING APRIL 1, 1867,
WITH THE AGE AND DISEASE TO WHICH IT ATTRIBUTED.

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Hartford County, | Elis Hall, aged 72. | Engorgement Pericardial Membr. |
| " " | Sylvester Bickley, aged 59. | Furunculæ |
| " " | L. North, aged 60. | Consumption Uterus |
| New Haven " | Frederick Ward, aged 54. | Diabetes |
| " " | Isela Foulkner, aged 66. | Stroke |
| Windham " | Mary Burgess, aged 87. | Furunculæ |
| " " | Nathan S. Pike, aged 40. | Consumption |
| Litchfield " | Orin Plunk, aged 71. | Consumption of the Lungs |
| " " | Chassey Reed, aged 41. | Pneum. |
| Middlesex " | David Harrison, aged 74. | Softening of the Brain |

DUTIES OF CLERKS

To make County Meetings.

To record the proceedings of the County Meetings.

To collect the taxes and pay the same to the Treasurer.

To transmit to the Secretary a list of the elected Fellows, and the persons recommended as a candidate for a gratuitous course of lectures, immediately after the County Meetings, for publication.

To make certificates of Fellowship, to be transmitted to the Secretary, on or before the first day of the Convention.

To transmit duplicate lists of the Members of the Society, to the Secretary and Treasurer, on or before the first day of the Convention, on the penalty of five dollars for each neglect.

To transmit to the Treasurer the names of Fellows elected before Convention.

To return to the Treasurer the names of delinquent Members of the Society.

To report to the Secretary of the State Convention, on the first day of its session, the names, ages, and diseases of the members of this Society, who may have died during the year preceding the 1st of April in each year, in most several County Societies.

RULES OF ORDER.

1. Organization.
2. Certificate of Membership presented and read by the Secretary.
3. Committee on the Election of Fellows.
4. Address of President.
5. Election of Officers for ensuing year.
6. Unfinished business of previous year disposed of.
7. Reception and reference, without debate, of Communications, Resolutions, &c., from the several Counties, and Members of the Convention.
8. Reading Treasurer's Report.
9. Committee to audit the same.
10. Committee on Debates.
11. Standing Committees appointed.
12. Committee to nominate Delegates to National Convention.
13. Committee on Candidates for Graduate Course of Lectures.
14. Committee on Honorary Degrees and Honorary Memberships.
15. Committee to nominate Examiners.
16. Dissertation.
17. Reports of Committees appointed on County Conventions, &c.
18. Reports of Standing Committees.
19. Reports of Committees in the order in which business was brought forward in Convention.
20. Miscellaneous Business.

DISSERTATIONS READ IN CONVENTIONS.

1794. Dr. S. H. P. Lee, on Autumnal Bilious Fever.
1794. Dr. Gideon Shepherd, on the Properties of Opium.
1795. Dr. F. P. Ouviere, on the Preparations of Antimony.
1795. Dr. Thaddeus Betts, on the Different Species of Colic.
1796. Dr. F. P. Ouviere, on the Contagion of Yellow Fever.
1796. S. H. P. Lee, on *Cynanche Tonsillaris*.
1796. Dr. Lewis Collins, on the most eligible mode of increasing Medical Knowledge in this State.
1796. Dr. Gideon Shepherd, on the same subject.
1798. Dr. Samuel Hopkins, case of Bilious Concretion.
1798. Dr. Jared Potter, "An Essay."
1799. Dr. Thaddeus Clark, a Dissertation.
1800. Dr. Nathaniel Dwight, on Lascy.
1804. Dr. Samuel Willard, on the Stafford Mineral Waters.
1817. Dr. W. R. Fowler, on the Deleterious Effects of Ardent Spirits.
1818. Dr. William Buel, on Ergot.
1820. Dr. Thomas Miner, on Typhus Fever.
1821. Dr. Samuel Beckwell, on Uterine Hemorrhage.
1822. Dr. William Tully, on the Yellow Fever at Middletown.
1823. Dr. Dyer T. Brainard.
1827. Dr. Samuel B. Woodward, on the Biography of the Physicians of the State.
1829. Dr. George Sumner, on Extra-uterine Conception.
1830. Dr. Charles Hooker, on Diseases of the Ear.
1833. Dr. Benjamin Welch, Jr., on the Vitality of the Blood.
1836. Dr. E. H. Bishop, Influence of Moral Emotions on Disease.
1837. Dr. Archibald Welch, on Scarlet Fever.
1838. Dr. Isaac G. Porter, on the Disease commonly denominated Spinal Irritation.
1873. Dr. Henry Bronson, on the Mental Qualifications necessary to a Physician.

1840. Dr. Richard Warner, on the Advantages of prompt and efficient practice in Acute Diseases.
1841. Dr. Amariah Brigham, on Insanity as a subject of Medical Jurisprudence.
1842. Dr. Charles Woodward, on Uterine Irritation.
1843. Dr. Pinckney W. Ellsworth, on Phlebitis.
1844. Dr. Worthington Hooker, on the Respect due to the Medical Profession, and the reasons that it is not awarded by the Community.
1845. Dr. Nathan B. Ives, on Laryngismus Stridulus.
1846. Dr. Theodore Sill, Observations on Typhus Fever.
1847. Dr. E. K. Hunt, on the Importance of a Medical Organization, and the advantages resulting from it.
1848. Dr. B. F. Barker, Remarks on some forms of Disease of the Cervix Uteri.
1849. Dr. Alvan Talcott, on Hygiene.
1850. Dr. Johnson C. Hatch, on Medical Jurisprudence.
1851. Dr. George Sumner, on the Early Physicians of Connecticut.
1853. Dr. Rufus Blakeman, Early Physicians of Fairfield County.
1855. Dr. Samuel Beach, on Popularizing Medicine.
1854. Dr. Wm. B. Casey, on Diseased Cervix Uteri.
1855. Dr. Stephen G. Hubbard, on Registration, as the basis of Sanitary Reform.
1857. Dr. Benjamin D. Dean, "The Medical Profession."

APPENDIX.

MEDICAL INSTITUTION OF YALE COLLEGE. ANNUAL EXAMINATIONS, 1862.

The Board of Examiners convened on Wednesday, Jan. 14th, and continued its session two days. Present, on the part of the Connecticut Medical Society: Benjamin H. Cahoon, M. D., of Meriden, President.
William W. Welch, M. D., of Norfolk.
Charles Woodward, M. D., of Middletown.
A. T. Douglass, M. D., of Glaston.

On the part of Yale College: Peck, J. Knight, C. Barker, H. Brown, W. Hooker, B. Williams, Jr., and P. A. Jewett.

Eleven candidates submitted their dissertations, and, after examination, were recommended for the Degree of Doctor in Medicine, viz.:

1. Am. Hopkins Churchill, New Haven, on "Fasciatus."
2. George Clary, Hartford, on "The Progress and Prospects of Medical Science."
3. Corbando Van Rensselaer Crook, New Haven, on "The Blood."
4. David Aaron Hedges, Bridgeport, Conn.; L. L., on "Typhus."
5. John Washington Hooker, B. A., 1851, New Haven, the Valedictory Address.
6. Charles Eos Osborne, B. A., Oberlin and Sidney College, 1852, New York City, on "The Connection between Mind and Body in Disease."
7. Homer Lee Parsons, Bristol, on "Kermesine and Rhazarine Periodicity."
8. Oscar Wilbur Peck, New Haven, on "Apoplexy."
9. Ezra Smith, Willsboro, N. Y., on "Pneumonia."
10. John Wither, North Woodstock, on "The Cause of Fever in Medicine."
11. Samuel Ewald Wasson, Birmingham, on "Current Hygiene; the True Medical Therapeutics."

The candidates did honor to themselves and their institution, being better prepared than those preceding, on the average, by their experience clinically, arriving, with one or two exceptions, the unanimous vote of the board. If there was any branch in which it could be said they were deficient, it was that of Chemistry. It is feared that some students consider this only as a collateral branch, which they can neglect rather than others. If they were aware what

Chemistry has done for the advancement of medical science in the last thirty years, and what is expected from it in future, they would not neglect this important branch of their profession.

Archibald T. Douglass, M. D., of Geneva, and Samuel W. Hall, M. D., of Cornwall, were appointed to give the annual addresses to the candidates in 1858 and 1859.

The President, Benjamin H. Catlin, M. D., next appeared to report the Proceedings of the Board to the President and Fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society.

The Board then adjourned to meet July 29, the Tuesday before the Commencement in Yale College.

The Commencement Exercises in the College Chapel, Thursday evening, Jan. 15, before a large and intelligent audience of ladies and gentlemen, were highly interesting.

The *Faledictory Address*, by Dr. John W. Bunker, of the graduating class, was unusually able and appropriate.

The *Answer Address to the Candidates*, by the Hon. Wm. W. Welch, M. D., of the Board of Examiners, was an interesting history of medical science, closing with an important appeal to the candidates to fidelity in the profession they were about to enter. After which, the Degrees were conferred by President Woolsey, in behalf of the Board of Examiners.

B. H. CATLIN, *President.*

ADDRESS.

GENTLEMEN :

Through the indulgence of a kind Providence, we are permitted once more to assemble in our Annual Convention, to exchange those congratulations so pleasant to us, and to engage in those duties incumbent upon us as the representatives of the Connecticut Medical Society.

A by-law was adopted by this Society, at its Annual Meeting, eight years since, making it the duty of the President "to deliver an Address to the Convention, annually."

My predecessors have understood it as being their duty, only as they retired from office. Some have failed then, so that we have had only two addresses in the period of eight years named.

Being a law-abiding citizen, I intend, for the brief period I am honored with the office, to comply with the letter of the law, though I despair of coming up to the spirit of the requirement.

It is interesting and profitable to review the history of Medicine in this State, from its first small beginnings, irregular and unorganized, through its early and more matured organizations, to the present time, and to learn something of the Fathers of Medicine in Connecticut, their labors in this society and our profession.

For a knowledge of those facts, I would refer you to the able and interesting addresses of my predecessors, the lamented Sumner and our honored friend whom we hoped to see with us to-day, Rufus Blakeman, M. D., published with the proceedings of this society in the years 1851 and 1853. If you are not already familiar with them, I can assure you they are well worthy of your attention.

We are in the anomalous condition of a society without a written constitution; all our powers and privileges, as officers and members of the Connecticut Medical Society, being derived from an act of in-

corporation granted by the legislature of this State, and our duties and obligations are defined by this and by the by-laws and Medical Police which we have adopted in accordance with this act. It is for you to decide whether a constitution would add to our privileges, or render our society more efficient. It is not unusual for societies created by an act of incorporation, to have also a constitution.

The laws of our society, though its incorporation dates back sixty-five years, are still very brief. Those relating to the duties of the President, define them to be: To preside at the meetings of the society, appoint a portion of the committee for business, call extra meetings when necessary, and deliver an annual address, giving no directions respecting the subject or the object of the address. We are therefore left with the largest liberty in deciding upon the theme of our discourse.

It would seem to be appropriate to have one slightly analogous to the message of the Governor of the State, directing your attention to the present state of medical science and practice within our limits, pointing out, as far as practicable, the obstacles which prevent a more rapid improvement of the healing art, and suggesting, for your consideration, such measures as shall appear necessary to promote the greatest possible advancement of our beloved profession.

Our act of incorporation and by-laws give the President no special powers for acquiring information, being, in fact, more manager in this respect than in defining his duties.

I have presumed to address circulars to the Clerks of the County Societies, requesting them to present to their county meetings the importance of having committees of inquiry appointed, which, if attended to, may another year present facts from the different parts of the State, eminently useful to the President for the preparation of his annual address.

I can only speak of those things which fall within my own sphere of observation, and give my individual opinion in regard to matters worthy of our consideration at the present time.

When we contemplate the fact that previous to the organization of the American Medical Association, many of the States and Territories had few, if any, medical societies, state, county, or municipal, we look with pride upon our own as being one of the earliest formed, and for that early period, wisely and somewhat efficiently organized. We have been so well satisfied with what our fathers have done, that we have suffered our society to become comparatively a barren organization, not yet so dry as the bones in Ezekiel's vision, or the mummies

of the Egyptian kings. It has at least the vitality of a Joice Heath. We meet in county meetings, appoint officers, possibly have a discussion or a case of discipline, and then adjourn in haste. The Fellows meet in convention, appoint officers for the year, listen to an address, if they are so fortunate as to have one, and by that time some beginning to be anxious about their patients, their practice, or perhaps more solicitous lest some rival shall supplant them in their absence, can spend no time for the improvement of medical science. I am happy to say there are many exceptions to this course. There are many worthy members of our society, who, with a true love for science, have labored and will labor on in this noble cause, irrespective of any personal emolument or honors, with a true desire to promote the general good.

I fully concur in the sentiments expressed in the closing sentences of Dr. Sumner's address: "They, the founders of this society, are not here, but we have the comforting assurance that they did not labor in vain; and that the medical skill of our State has been greatly extended, that the mental culture of our physicians is vastly more thorough, and their moral character is essentially improved since the establishment of this society."

As the hills and mountains of our rock-bound State have towered above the broad prairies of the West, so has our professional standing been exalted above that of our brethren in many other States and Territories. But this prominence is passing from us. Through the influence of the American Medical Association, there is a reviving influence abroad, co-extensive with our broad national domain, moving "the mass of medical society to its very depths." Those who have more recently entered upon the race are outstripping the old stages, so that unless we speedily arouse ourselves from our lethargy, we shall find our brethren in other States excelling us, as the lofty summits of the Alleghenies rise above our Ilipontian hills.

It will not answer for us to be doing just what our fathers have done. There is no remaining *in statu quo*. Unless we advance we retrograde, relatively if not positively.

There is a principle of miserable conservatism, or more properly, if not classically, called *old fogeyism*, prevalent in our profession. A disposition to maintain our medical organization in the form handed down to us by our fathers as one too sacred to be assailed. If you will look over the records of our society for the last twelve years, you will find several movements for changes in our medical organization, the objects of which were to create a more general interest throughout

the profession, in the objects and pursuits of the society. You will find, also, that they have almost uniformly been voted down. Some of them are so important that I should recommend them for your consideration had not sentence already been pronounced against them. We are not all perfectionists. Let us, then, look with favor upon suggestions made by any member for improvements in our medical organization. If they appear crude and objectionable, let them be thoroughly discussed and amended from year to year, if necessary, till they are so far perfected that a majority shall be convinced they are real improvements.

A few of the sons of Connecticut have made a liberal sacrifice of time and money in attend upon the meetings of the National Association. Some have been active in contributions, and two or three articles have been written by different individuals for publication in the transactions, but we have not, as members of the faculty in this state, taken that high stand which might have been expected of us, considering our previous history. It is not too late to remedy the evil. We must arouse ourselves with all the energy in our power, for the reputation of our profession, in this State, depends upon our decision and action.

I regret to say that there is, in many places, a great reluctance on the part of members in assuming any responsibility, or in engaging in any labor, as contributors or as individuals, in collecting and recording facts and statistics necessary to advance medical sciences. If a subject is brought forward for investigation, those appointed to perform the labor do, in too many instances, ask to be excused, or if accepting, will neglect to perform the labor requisite to accomplish the end desired.

Every member of this society will doubtless claim that he is in favor of every real improvement, and is ready to look with delight anything which even promises to advance the healing art. But I appeal to your experience, gentlemen, if it is not a fact that every reformer, every one who proposes a radical change in the treatment of any disease, or any great change in long established usages and practices, has for a time, at least, to encounter an unnecessary amount of abuse before his plan or improvement, though worthy of our highest regards, can be established. It is right and reasonable, yea, more, it is our imperative duty, to examine, with scrupulous care, every change proposed in a practice which has had, for a long time, the sanction of our profession; but let us look with favor upon every proposed improvement or discovery till it is proved to be a fallacy.

An insatiable desire to do a large and lucrative business, rather than to do what is done in the best possible manner, is a serious hindrance to medical improvement. We ought to consider it an obligation binding upon us not to assume greater responsibilities than we are able to meet with fidelity and ability. Every case should be attentively and thoroughly investigated, according to its importance, before seeking new cases.

In many towns throughout our State there is a spirit of rivalry and petty jealousy, between leeches, which is greatly annoying and disgraceful to those engaged in it, and a bar to all improvement. You will too frequently find a physician of some ability showing an amount of absurdness and tact in supplanting a rival, or gaining a temporary advantage over a neighbor, which if rightly directed, would place him high in the ranks of the profession. It is better to suffer a little from such a man than to enter into a contest with him.

I am satisfied there is much less of this spirit in the profession than formerly. I rejoice to say there are many towns, villages, and cities, where there is a very pleasant and friendly feeling between medical leeches, each having regard to the reputation of his brother, not unmindful of the injunction of the apostle, "Let each esteem others better than themselves;" "Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others."

The system of medical police adopted by this society, October, 1817, and the code of medical ethics of the American Medical Association, adopted and published by this society in 1834, are founded upon just and equitable principles, conducted alike to the interest of each member of the profession and the community. These regulations are so reasonable, as well as just, that every man should enter fully into the spirit of these requirements. But we regret to say they are too often violated, and consistently by those of whom we might expect better things. Now and then one who has been honored by appointment to important offices in this society, will consult with an irregular, or what is equally a violation of the spirit of the law, visit his patient, make a prescription, and leave the patient in his hand. I think you would most effectually put down this form of quackery by a by-law excluding such persons from office in this society.

Our profession suffers for the want of attention on the part of many members to the proper regulation of the diet and exercise of their patients. Owing to this, many a chronic case, which is almost cured, the disease perhaps eradicated, so that if the patient was kept

upon a well regulated system of diet and exercise, restoration to comfortable, if not perfect health, would be the happy result; yet for the want of such a course, goes into the hands of irregular practitioners, who have the credit of the cure.

I am perfectly aware, from painful experience, of the difficulty of carrying out this plan in private practice; but we must do what we can, and cases that cannot be managed should be sent to some hospital, or what would be better in many cases, to some private institution, were we fortunate to have one under the care of some brother qualified and prepared to manage such patients.

What benefit is derived from treatment in Hydrophobia, Morbidity, and other partial systems, is due almost exclusively to a regular plan of diet and exercise.

Passing through the south part of this city (Hartford) a few years since, I saw before me what appeared in the distance to be a private mansion, but having a sign over its principal entrance, which as I approached nearer, I found to be, "Home for the Sick."

Upon one, who had practiced many years in a thriving village, where great numbers of youths of both sexes coming in, obtaining lodging as they could, some crowded into small attic chambers, among strangers, destitute of all those conveniences or comforts so important in sickness, such a sign made a deep impression—Home for the Sick! How many young men, and young women too, have suffered, and perhaps died, for the want of a home when sick? How many single persons of both sexes, and of all ages, though in their native towns, have suffered, and are suffering, because they have no home when sick?

I understand the citizens of Hartford have raised their "Home for the Sick" to the dignity of a Hospital. I would advise them to retain the original name, for many persons have strong prejudice against a hospital, unreasonable, yet real, that would not exist towards a "Home for the Sick."

Our records will show that such hospitals as we have in Connecticut, the Retreat for the Insane, and Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb, owe their existence in no small degree to this society, or members of our profession. If we are to have homes for the sick established, as they should be, in all our principal towns and villages, you, gentlemen, and your associates, must commence and carry on the work. The funds must come from benevolent individuals, from state and town authorities, but the real work must be performed by our profession.

I have pointed out a few of the obstacles which impede the progress of the society and prevent the greatest improvement of individual members.

I have also in connection with the statement of the difficulties, mentioned incidentally some of the remedies. It remains to inquire what further action is necessary to remove these evils and promote the greatest possible advancement of the society.

Were I merely to call your attention to a dissertation delivered before this society ten years since, by our esteemed friend, E. K. Hunt, M. D., of this city, and secure your earnest and undivided efforts to adopt and carry out in full all the important suggestions therein contained, I should have done much towards removing the obstacles I have named, and place our society in that high and commanding position it should occupy. I have been surprised that so little attention has been paid to the important matters contained in his dissertation.

Those urging the importance of raising the standard of medical education, have received attention in the National Association, and those relating to biographical notices of deceased physicians, have within the last few years received attention in our society. The sanitary reports from Hartford County, the last two years, are in accordance with the ideas suggested in the dissertation.

In the Transactions of the American Medical Association for 1854, nine years after the publication of the dissertation, there is a report from the committee on plans and organization for state and county societies, (page 345) in which you will find the same ideas clothed in very similar language, urging the importance of close observation by individual members, of the greatest number of definite and authorized facts, to be received and collated by a committee appointed for that purpose. These to be subjects for discussion at the County meeting, amended if necessary, and then forwarded to the State Society. It is urged by both that the reading and discussion of these reports will add greatly to the interest of our County and State meetings, now so dry and formal.

The following are the third and sixth resolutions presented by the above named committee, which I transcribe for your consideration:

Resolved, That this association also earnestly recommend to local or county societies to incorporate into their constitution or by-laws, provisions for making it the duty of each of their members to keep at least a brief record of all cases occurring in his practice, depending upon sickness or general causes, and report at least annually to a

committee of the society to which he belongs, the number or percentage of different diseases occurring each month, together with the particular type of each disease, the chief modifying circumstances under which it occurred, the general plan of treatment, and the result of the cases; and also that these societies make provision for the collection of such committee, whose duty it shall be to receive and collate such reports, arranging them in due form, and adding such remarks as may assist to their proper understanding, and to transmit them annually thus arranged to a committee of the State Society, to which the local or county shall be auxiliary; and this association further recommends that the State Societies make provision in their constitution or by-laws, for the appointment of a committee, whose duty it shall be to receive such reports from the local or county societies, to again arrange with other reports, from similar societies, placing them in a condensed or tabulated form, and report them annually, with proper remarks, to a committee of this association, to which the State Societies are recommended to become auxiliary."

Resolved, That in the opinion of this association, it would tend to the production of papers of greater merit, and increase the interest of the meetings of local or county societies, if those papers possessing peculiar merit were referred to the State Society as mark of honor and to be incorporated into their proceedings if deemed worthy."

It is for you, gentlemen, to decide whether it is expedient at this time to recommend to the members of this society, through the county societies, the observation and collection of such facts. The days of theorizing and speculation in medicine, we trust, are past. We can expect to improve the science of medicine only upon the inductive method—the collection of the largest number of facts. Those that can and should be collected by each and every member of this society in the various localities where they reside, among a population living and dying under all the diversified circumstances which exist in our communities, would be of the most important character; altogether more valuable than those occurring among such a class of persons as are usually found in large hospitals.

The plan carried out will require great labor; so great that we cannot expect to do all we wish at once. It will be a work of years to perfect the system, but this should not deter us from commencing the enterprise. Those advanced in life may never acquire the habit of recording their observation, but to our younger brethren we look with hope.

It is very much to be regretted that the plan of *sanitary reports*,

so auspiciously commenced in Hartford county, and earnestly recommended to each county of the State, by this society at their convention two years since, have received so little attention from individual members or from county societies. We trust these recommendations will not long remain unheeded.

All our county societies, in order to carry out the plan proposed, will find it necessary to have two, and probably more frequent meetings, each year. I am happy to learn that some counties have recently decided upon more frequent meetings.

Through the influence of members of our profession we fortunately have in Connecticut a registry law, which may, in its yet imperfect and imperfect state, require your constant watchfulness and care, till it is more fully perfected and established.

I would recommend to your notice the efforts now being made for the establishment in our state of an institution for the improvement of that unfortunate class, in all communities, the insane and idiotic, as eminently worthy of your attention. It will be in keeping with the previous history of our profession, in regard to kindred institutions, to give this enterprise your hearty and efficient support: as I have before observed, our mutual organization might be improved.

If you were to examine our system with the eye and experience of a judicious surgeon, you would doubtless find some places requiring the free application of the caustic: some useless or offensive members that need the amputating knife. Still you will find enough that can now be done to improve our body corporate as at present organized. We now have the most important organs, the bones, the cartilages, the tendons, the muscle, and a weak circulation in the heart and large arteries. If we can this day send out from this center of action a fresh flow of warm arterial blood, coursing through the large arteries, to the extremities, reaching up to intense action every minute capillary, there will be a happy return to the cerebral organ, giving them increased energy and vitality. If we can start on its course from the brain a full current of nervous influence through the sympathetic nerves, thrilling through every minute nervous filament, we shall soon see the whole system, now sluggish and torpid, awakened to a new life-producing results exceeding our most sanguine expectations. We must go to work with all our energies if we would maintain our reputation, or make advances in accordance with the spirit of the age in which we live. We must be satisfied to see a less number of patients, that we may observe better and record the observation made. We must be willing to labor as individuals, and on committees, and make

thorough work is the reform. Such a course will eradicate all petty jealousies and rivalries between brethren, leaving only a fair and honorable competition for high distinction in the profession.

Gentlemen, I trust you have come here prepared to remain till the labor necessary to be accomplished at this Convention, is accomplished, even though it should require the remainder of the week. And when you have done this, you are to remember that your duties as *fellows* do not terminate with the close of this Convention. You are chosen for the year, liable to be called together again by your President, should the interest of the profession require your attention. You may have important duties to perform in the discipline of unworthy members.

As you return to the hills and valleys of Connecticut to resume your ordinary duties, go feeling that the interests of the profession in your several counties are in an important sense committed to you *enire*. Attend your county meetings to explain and advocate such measures as you shall here recommend for their action, and attend to all the duties incumbent on you as *fellows*, till others are elected to fill your places.

In conclusion, brethren, permit me to say, we are constantly reminded by the Providence of God, that our time for labor here is short. The returns of the clerks of the several counties, to be made this day, will show that a number, not small, have fallen in our ranks during the year now past.

Three of these require particular notice at this time, their names being on our most important Standing Committees. The death of one of these, David Harrison, M. D., of Middletown, comes near the speaker, and to it least two other members of this Convention. He was our class-mate, a pleasant and a warm friend, for a period reaching near to one-third of a century. Another, Reynolds Webb, M. D., of Madison, a few years our senior, an acquaintance of over thirty years. The last fifteen years residing in the same county, our intercourse has been frequent and pleasant. We always expected to meet him at our county meeting. If we were disappointed, it was an exception, not the rule. He was often a prominent member of this Convention. That noble form and familiar face we shall see no more. May we imitate all that is ennobling and elevating in their characters. The other brother, we remember, as one who has battled long and manfully with a fatal disease, to which he at last was obliged to yield.

We have to deal with an enemy that cannot, like the soldier on the battle field, be shot down, or driven off at the point of the bayonet;

and kept out by fortification. Unless we are spared to wear out by the infirmities of age, or run off by the Providence of God, we are sure that the enemy we have been fighting all our lives, will at last triumph over us. Some disease will defy our skill, however skilful, the counsel of our brother, however wise. But we need not be troubled with this thought. The only perfect physician that has been on our earth, who could heal all manner of disease, with a word, a look, or the touch, when he had accomplished his work, laid down his life; a life that no man had power to take, except it were given him from above. May we all, when in health, propose to meet the last enemy; so that we may at last enter that world where we shall not hear the groans of the sick, the sighs of the broken hearted, or the sappings of the monster, whose all is hellishness and happiness; whose inhabitants never say they are sick,

DISSERTATION,

BY BENJAMIN D. THOM, M. D.

Mr. President, and Gentlemen of the State Medical Society:

ANOTHER year has quickly fled. Its brief, fleeting hours, whether laden with joy or sorrow, prosperity or adversity, are now past, mingling in eternity's ocean, with those beyond the flood. And thus, your other year has swiftly glided away, till now we are permitted by the record of our doings on this occasion, to acknowledge with due reverence the return of the sixty-fifth anniversary of our State Medical Society. Its origin being contemporaneous with the early struggles of our American Republic, and founded by those of our Profession, who acted well their part in establishing the free institutions we now enjoy, and possessing, as it does, many features analogous to the return of our individual, or national birth-day, it should ever be held in honored remembrance by us, and our successors. Besides, it renders an important service in forming new friendships and renewing old ones. Its annual return cheers the mind with many happy recollections, by inducing us to review our professional associations of the past. In fact, it serves a milestone, a landmark in our career of mitigating the ills of man, which cluster so thickly around his whole pathway in this life. Therefore, let us all, whether present or absent, cherish it with renewed interest.

Without further detaining you with preliminaries, permit me to announce, that the "Medical Profession" will constitute the theme of my remarks on this occasion.

In my arrangement of this subject for your consideration, I propose to notice briefly its *History*, *Present Position*, and *Prospective Attainments*.

The history of all departments of art and science, is replete with interest to those who seek for knowledge; and the worldling runs

and varied treasures of the past. Such in their researches are guided and allured backward down the course of time, by an occasional beacon-light whose scintillant radiance is in striking contrast with the darkness so visible along the steep declivity of receding centuries. And fortunate, indeed, is it, that such aid, however limited, is vouchsafed from generation to generation, and that the noblest results are sometimes secured through the influence of the humblest instrumentality. And, cheering is the fact, that here and there, through all the long and varied record of the past, some fragment of departing worth has been wrested from the otherwise universal and engulfing vortex of oblivion's night. And thus it is, that the condition of our race, past, present, and future, is inequally united, each influencing in their turn, those that succeed them. And well it is, that the present is in continued dependence on the past, and the future on the present. For, were this bond of union severed, the wisdom and experience of past ages would prove of no practical service to us, nor would the events and acquisitions of our times, influence the condition of countless generations that are sure to follow us during the lapse of a mysterious future.

The history of our Profession, during those remote ages, which constitute and environ the antediluvian world, for a period of more than twenty centuries, is veiled in the darkest obscurity. The mind is bedazzled in the wildest conjecture, in contemplating the position and attainments, that had been made in medical science, among that long list of kingdoms and empires, that arose and fell during those preterital ages, without leaving a single footprint to tell of their grandeur, dominion, and duration, are they were entombed in one common deluge. And yet, that is not sufficient evidence for us to doubt its existence and success, through so long and obscure a period of the world's history. The chief wants and requirements for the comfort of man, have possessed the strongest analogy through all time. He has required food and raiment, repose and shelter in all ages, and in all climes. Endowed with the great elements of manhood, though clothed in the feebleness of infancy, he has arisen to power, and possession. And in all his prosperity or adversity, disease and death, in their numberless forms, at times stealthily, and again abruptly approaching their victims, have been no strangers to him. Indeed, it is reasonable for us to suppose, that he has ever struggled and labored to find some safe retreat from foes that so frequently and successfully attack the citadel of life. For, the law of self-preservation is, and probably ever has been, acknowledged a controlling element in guiding man's individual action. Acting almost

by intuition from the deduction of such an hypothesis, we are forced to the conclusion, that the virtue of medicine has long been acknowledged by mankind. Indeed, I feel justified in claiming its origin and achievements to have been contemporaneous and coextensive with the race of man, since the decree of "do not thou art," was written on his brow. Its commencement and early development must have been humble. A few simple remedies might have been used by accident, and the ordinary application of these, would very naturally lead to the examination of others whose properties and influence on disease, though briefly recorded, could not fail to increase the desire, and extend the facilities of similar and more thorough investigations. In this limited and unassuming manner, without doubt, the germ of our Profession was developed, and sustained in its infancy. And as the decree was appointed unto all men, rich and poor, high and low, the noble and the ignoble, bond and free, it was unobtrusively cultivated with great zeal and assiduity, and its application and appreciation must have become universal in an early day. Among every nation, tribe, and people, some were to be found who were considered competent to practice the healing art. And, thus, as we look down through the long gloomy vista of centuries, we can discover the early formation of that noble structure, the Medical Profession, which now encircles the globe—modest and unassuming in its primitive history, like the development of the oak from the acorn, whose numerous, deep, and far-reaching fibers firmly sustain the trunk, with its many outstretched arms proudly defying the storms of many generations.

We learn from history, in tracing the progress of events, and advancement of the race, from the earliest record which has come down to modern times, thus to ancient Egypt belongs the enduring fame of being the earliest official patron of Medical Science. Here, in this land of Pyramids, whose lofty proportions and artistic grandeur can never be excelled, the arts and sciences were early and successfully cultivated. And in the development of all the elements for the comfort and improvement of the race, it is a proud fact for us to know, that our Profession was not left uncared for and forgotten. Although we can not identify the names of its most honored members, as in more recent periods, still, the fact which I have already affirmed, can not be successfully questioned. For we have the evidence of Herodotus on this point, a Grecian historian, who lived in the fifth century before the Christian era; and whom Cicero calls the Father of History. He says, "that the science of Medicine received so much attention, that in the practice of the art, the division of labor appears

to have been carried as far as in modern times. That one physician was confined to the study and management of one disease; that some attended to the diseases of the eyes, some took care of the teeth, while many attended to the cure of maladies which were less conspicuous."

Division of labor, to this extent, could not have been established and maintained among any other than a refined and highly civilized people. In the infancy of society, every man employs himself in all the departments of industry, which are requisite for the supply of his immediate wants. As society advances, the various arts and professions arise, and with the progress of refinement, these necessarily undergo various subdivisions; but we do not look for this division to be carried to its ultimate limits except in the most advanced stages of civilization. That the Medical Profession has ever maintained an honorable position among mankind, in all ages of the world, is made fully evident from the fact of its sacred associations, at the earliest period from which history or tradition reveals its success to us. In the primitive ages of Egyptian history, its members were ruled with the prerogatives of the clergy. They administered aid and relief to the body as well as the soul. Indeed, the priests of those days were almost exclusively the representatives of science and learning in all their varied departments. They were the physicians, judges, astronomers, architects and rulers. At what date this state of things ceased to exist, it is quite impossible for us to determine. But it is very evident that a long time must have elapsed after the study and practice of medicine had been recognized a separate profession, before the wants of society demanded that variety of practitioners in its several departments, which existed, as we have already intimated, among the early Egyptians, more than forty centuries ago. But this people, with all their wealth and refinement, their attainments in the arts and sciences, their gorgeous temples and lofty pyramids, were not permitted to escape the changes and decay, which are so richly written on terrestrial objects. Yes, the glory of this once-favored land, whose widespread civilization and scientific institutions have influenced the progress of the race in subsequent ages, at length reached its culmination. And in the decline that soon followed, of the vital elements which constituted its greatness, the Medical Profession shared in the same general wreck. But the light that sustained and guided the interests of medical science then, was only dimmed, not extinguished. For in later times, and among another people, its rays, with stronger effulgence, were destined to illuminate the pathway of man.

In tracing the progress of our Profession, after ceasing to linger amid the ruins and buried treasures of a nation, which occupies so conspicuous a position in the annals of both sacred and profane history, the mind is very naturally directed by its success, to ancient Greece. Here the most reliable early record of Medical Science is traceable. And much of its later history is closely blended with the noble institutions of that classic land—a land proudly distinguished for its poets and philosophers, its science and art, its orators, heroes, and statesmen.

"Close of the forgotten brave!"
Whose land from plain to mountain-side
Was freedom's home, or glory's grave."

The history of this once powerful people, dates more than eighteen centuries anterior to the Christian Era. It is environed with thrilling events, and instructive lessons. Here literature, and the arts and sciences, were generally and successfully cultivated. Here the Medical Profession found a genial soil, and its members held no ordinary position in rank or power. In many instances they were the rulers of the people. And such was the degree of respect and reverence to which they attained as a class, that the memories of some of the most eminent among them, were constituted objects of worship after death. Thus it was with Esculapius, a surgeon of high attainments in his day, who received the homage of the profession to that extent, as to be honored and worshipped as the God of medicine; and whose name has been preserved through the darkness and mutation of centuries, during the rise and fall of Empires, and is now acknowledged with pride and reverence.

The honors and emoluments of the Profession, were, for several centuries, hereditary in certain distinguished families of the priesthood, who, by their devotion to the cultivation of medical science, acquired a brilliant name. One of these families, descending from Esculapius, far excelled all others in the exalted reputation its members won in the healing art. This one was that of which Hippocrates was a member. This renowned family maintained a prominent position for a period of three hundred years; and during that time furnished seven titulars of our Profession, who were highly honored, and without doubt justly entitled to the many flattering encomiums that have been bestowed on their measures. Undoubtedly, this is the only instance in the long and varied annals of medi-

rise, wherein one family has maintained equal prominence during three consecutive centuries. They were also celebrated for their skill and their writings on medical subjects. Collectively they have the credit, as a family, of being the authors of seventy-two works.

The first of the family of whose history families we record, flourished about five hundred years before the birth of Christ. And, as the sequel proved, the success of his labors, in a measure prepared the way for one who was destined to establish a new era in medicine, as the second of that name, grandson of the first, far excelled all others in brilliancy of mind and knowledge of disease. He was born in the Island of Cos, four hundred and sixty years previous to the Christian era. By his mother, he is classed as a descendant of Hercules, and according to the genealogy of those times, he is considered as the eighteenth literal descendant from Esculapius.* Therefore his natural position in the world, aside from the acquirements to which he attained, gave additional character to the services which he rendered for the improvement of our Profession.

In his investigations of the science and practice of medicine, he was much that had received the confidence and approbation of the earlier practitioners, to which he could not want—much that had the semblance of truth, but which his acute, penetrating mind, decided to be error. He was fully competent for this important work. He possessed the true elements of character, necessary to constitute him a successful pioneer, and guide to our profession for all coming ages. His medical aphorisms, his discovery of the recuperative power of nature, as witnessed in the "*vis medicatrix nature*," and his demonstration of the critical days, in acute diseases, wrought a mighty change in the theory and treatment of disease among his contemporaries; and have since exerted a wide and healthful influence in establishing the present basis of medical science.

Little was correctly known of the true anatomical structure of man, at the period of our profession just noticed. It is not difficult for us to account for this state of things, when we consider the general prejudice, and even superstitious notions entertained by the whole people, relative to dissecting the human body. A more rational view of this subject became prevalent, however, soon after the extensive conquests of Alexander. During his reign, and that of his immediate successors, the department of Anatomy received much pro-

* He could boast of a noble ancestry, dating back through the changes and struggles of more than twelve centuries.

tial attention. Its study was thoroughly cultivated at Alexandria under the administrative rule of the Ptolemys. Under the liberal patronage of the first of these sovereigns it commanded the attention of the Profession, to that extent, as to secure a favorable estimate of its vital importance by the people generally. Consequently what would have been considered a high grade offence for the advancement of the true interests of medical science in Hippocrates' day, soon became the favored theme and study of the profession. Extremes followed close upon one another, as not unfrequently happens in more modern times. The subject was possessed with such zeal and minuteness, it is recorded, that Herophilus, a highly celebrated Anatomist who thrived about one hundred and fifty years after the birth of Hippocrates, dissected even living criminals.

The Romans, as a nation, when we consider the degree of prosperity they enjoyed, and the immense travelling influence they exerted over other nations for centuries, deserve little or no credit for the meagre service they rendered in advancing either the good reputation or usefulness of our profession. During the lapse of that long and eventful period, in which the martial prowess of this brave people swept the imperial sceptre over the then known world, little advance was made in the knowledge or treatment of disease. The many elements of greatness, preciously enjoyed by them, which should have been employed in developing man's highest temporal comforts and happiness, were mindlessly subsumed and forgotten in the vortex of national ambition and aggrandizement. And yet it is far from my intention to claim that the wants of our profession were entirely overlooked during those ages that witnessed the firmness and reverses of this gigantic Empire. For history has preserved a few names from the general wreck of this once favored nation of antiquity, which were identified with the interests of the medical profession. Among this list, the name of Celsus deserves, perhaps, a favorable consideration when compared with his contemporaries. He was a voluminous writer, but did not possess an inventive, original mind. He was, beyond question, a great compiler. If he excelled in any one department more than another, it was in the province of surgical subjects.

In this connection, were I so full so notice, briefly, the claims to which the memory of Galen is entitled in this imperfect review of medical history, I should be sure not to accomplish fully my purpose in this section. Several centuries had rolled their innumerable changes over the scenes of earth, during the period that elapsed from

the death of Hippocrates the great, to the birth of Galen. This distinguished disciple of Esculapins was born in Asia Minor, in the year 131, after the appearance of that memorable star in the east, which so completely disturbed the equanimity of Herod, and all the Egyptian court. Possessing rare intellectual endowments, he would have been a valuable acquisition to any profession. At an early age, however, he manifested a strong attachment for the study of medicine, and soon became distinguished for the services he rendered in the improvement of medical science. He was a ripe scholar, a ready writer, and a profound reasoner. The good principles contained in the theory of Hippocrates, he adopted and zealously advocated; and in the seven hundred and fifty essays on medical subjects, which are accredited to him, a leading object seemed to be, to give correct illustrations of the doctrine taught in the labors of him who will be honored as the father of medicine, so long as the history of our profession shall be preserved. Galen was naturally prompted to manifest more fervency in this direction, for the reason that a portion of his contemporaries, at least, had not only misunderstood, but misrepresented those principles of the great philosopher in medicine, which he held in venerated remembrance. He attained the age allotted to man's earthly career, of three score years and ten; and during the greater portion of his life, his brilliant talent was closely occupied with the view of advancing the good reputation of the healing art. And surely it may be said, that he labored not in vain, for he won his way to a proud position, among the noblest votaries of science recorded in antiquity. Indeed, his success would appear commensurate with the aspirations of the loftiest ambition; for his opinions and observations of medical science have almost undisturbed sway over the medical profession during more than twelve centuries. This may, in a measure, be attributable to the general abandonment of scientific research, during that period of the world's history, known as the middle ages, when an almost universal gloom enveloped the mental world, obscuring the lights that guided man's true elevation and progress. The decline and fall of the Roman Empire directly preceded, if not the precursor, of that night of mental paralysis, which extended its blighting, enervating influence through centuries, including and entangling much of the accumulated wisdom and experience of our profession, in the same general wreck.

During the ten centuries next following this overthrow of empires and dynasties, a general abandonment of scientific research was visible among those who had been its most effective patrons. From this period to the dawn of the sixth century, the lights which had cheered

and guided the interests of our profession, became obscured in the thick moral darkness that rested so heavily on the progress of the race. Then it was, as we approach the noon of this moral night, the glooms apparently becoming more dense, that the feeble rays of a glittering and unexpected light are visible in the distant horizon. As distance lessens, anxiety deepens in the mind, not unlike the sailor, who for the first time, without chart or compass, approaching an unknown and rock-bound coast, rears the course of his frail, tempest-tossed bark, in the direction of a sea, through unexpected light. He cannot discover, while retreat may be possible, whether it be true or false, whether an oasis of safety, or the fearful precursor of inextricable danger and despair. But buoyed with hope, and spirits undaunted, with his eye intently fixed on the distant light, he presses on through wind and storm, and the discovery of a continent rewarded his labors. Imagination may picture a similar scene, while the mind contemplates the doubts and uncertainties that cluster around the first demonstration which Ardin made, in the cultivation of medical science. Yes, the land and descendants of Ishmael, the wild men of the desert, the only nation in all antiquity that never submitted to the dictations of a foreign conqueror, always free, and thus will they ever continue, at length became the depository of letters, the oasis of our profession. And the Arabian physicians deserve the gratitude of posterity for the unwearied devotion they manifested, though humble the result, in its success and advancement.

On the revival of letters, Galen appeared to be held in nearly equal reverence with Aristotle. His reputation and position in the medical world, as the long moral and mental night which had hung like a mantle over the middle ages, disappeared, will received the homage of the profession. This state of things continued for a time. But at length the spell was broken. For a class of independent minds were deeply occupied in their researches for the elevation and improvement of our profession. Their labors led to important results. By the tests they instituted, new principles were developed. And perhaps no one rendered greater service in this direction than Boerhaave. Long will his noble influence be felt in behalf of a sound basis of rational philosophy in medicine. He justly condemned the spirit of superficial investigations, and vague speculations, which constituted a prominent feature in the labors of previous ages. He urged the paramount necessity of more careful attention to that branch of medical science known as morbid anatomy. A thorough knowledge of this department, in connection with the proper study and cultivation of

therapeutics, were considered by him of primitive importance. And in his opinion, the general diffusion of quackery among all classes, in his day, resulted directly from the feeble efforts made for the cultivation of these branches.

The writings of this wise man exerted, unquestionably, a powerful influence on the mental culture and professional attainments of Harvey and Sydenham, who manifested such partiality, and even reverence for his system of philosophy in medicine.

Since his day, the several departments of our science have made rapid advancement in the line of improvement. The discovery and demonstration of the circulation of the blood, forced an important era, in the history of our profession. It quickened and increased the vitality of thought, and aroused the whole medical mind to a higher appreciation of more critical observation. The resources of chemistry have been called into requisition and have rendered important service. The labors and writings of Boerhaave, Haller, Hunter, and scores of others, are entitled to an honorable notice on this occasion; and if time and your patience would permit, a glance at their history might not be wholly devoid of interest or profit.

With the commencement of the present century, are witnessed important developments of true progress in medical science. It forms a glorious era in the annals of medicine. Since passing its threshold, great influences have been steadily at work to establish a more reliable basis of the pathology and treatment of disease. And much has been accomplished. Nor could we have reasonably anticipated a less favorable result, when we duly consider the zeal and ability that have characterized the efforts of Lænnec, Proust, Brodie, Chambers, Liebig, Marshall Hall, and a host of others, engaged in accomplishing this noble work. And in view of the high position which the medical profession occupies to-day, I feel safe in claiming that more has been done for the improvement of medical science during the last half century, than had been achieved in centuries previous.

Nor has the usefulness of our profession been limited to the treatment and cure of physical disease alone. It has soared on loftier wing to analyze and comprehend the subtle agencies that regulate and control the complicated elements of mind. As the mind is the noblest attribute in the full development of man, so its study and successful treatment of its maladies, constitute the crowning glory and proudest mission of the medical profession.

Within a few years past, the medical treatment of the insane has received the most careful investigation at the hands of some of the

most gifted members of our profession. And now, there are in this country alone, some forty Hospitals or Retreats for the reception and amelioration of this unfortunate class of our race. According to the reports of some of the most successful of these institutions, nearly fifty per cent. of the number admitted, has been fully restored to soundness of mind. This fact alone speaks truly in behalf of the evidence of improvement in our profession, during the first half of the nineteenth century. But this is not all. The labor and liberality of our profession in succoring and improving the many unfortunate fellow beings of our race, do not end here. For its humane impulses are still further warmly enlisted to secure the elevation and improvement of another class of mankind, who have been considered, till within a few years, occupants of a sad, but irretrievable condition. I refer to that class, which, bearing the external sign of their Creation, has existed in every age, but whose intellectuality of intellect has assigned them a rank below the brute creation.

To be in a state of idiosy was to be in a position far too low to be cheered by even a single ray of hope. Thus for more than six thousand years has this earth of ours revolved around its common center, containing beings in human form, who were unconscious of life or any of its relations. But the future was reserved for our times and age, to witness the progress of that science and philanthropy that would circle the globe in seeking to elevate man to his true dignity and position.

Thus, gentlemen, I have sketched imperfectly the history and achievements of the noblest science that ever occupied the attention of finite minds. We have witnessed some of the many channels it has traversed in attaining its present enviable position. No profession has been cultivated with greater enthusiasm and more constant devotion than medicine; and considering the degree of superstition, and number of false theories it has had to encounter in all ages, none has made greater proficiency. It has been sustained by many persons justly numbered among the most brilliant minds which this earth has ever witnessed—names identified with man's true sphere and destiny, and whose memories will increase in grandeur and veneration as future generations shall review the record of the past.

And still the work is not all performed, nor are the noble aims of our profession fully accomplished. Although it now occupies, in the midland of the nineteenth century, a commanding and honorable position, there are yet grander heights to attain, and still nobler victories to be won. The whole profession should arouse itself to new

and greater efforts, if its future success would add to the value and renown of its past achievements.

False theories in medicine are of luxuriant growth, and have found ready advocates in all ages. And though the fact is humiliating, it is painfully evident that our own times form no exception in this particular. Empiricism in the practice of medicine, as at present exhibited, holds a strong position and exerts a wide influence. It possesses a wonderful degree of adaptation in securing its object. It approaches its victims in a variety of shades and forms. Its advocates are numerous and presumptuous, beckoned on by the unequalled assurance of possessing both fame and fortune as their reward. Neither is its field of conquest strictly confined to the lower strata of society, for at times it possesses the form and comeliness of true culture and refinement, and thereby secures the patronage of wealth and station. And it is to be feared even, that members of the regular faculty in medicine, holding fellowship with us and connection with this society, are to be found, who are not wholly free from its paralyzing, fluctuating influences.

That Empiricism is an evil of the first magnitude, in its ability to retard the true progress of medical science, I think all will readily admit. If such be the case, can no remedy be proposed of sufficient vitality to stay its further progress? Briefly, I would say, that if its excreting, devastating currents are ever checked in their blighting course, the work must be effected by the agency of the strongest arm in our own ranks, united with a more thorough diffusion of a sound philosophy of medical science, among the masses of the people. The bickerings, jealousies, and unkind remarks which are sometimes witnessed among medical men, in their professional capacity, should cease. Each member should henceforth labor, as it were, for the good reputation of his associates, and thereby secure the return of more permanent reward for individual effort. When that period is welcomed and attained, then will the cheering and healthful influence of our noble science be more universally experienced in all lands. Then, and not till then, will our profession, united and prosperous, occupy that proud position which is commensurate with its worth.

BENJAMIN D. DEAN.

Newwich, May, 1857.

DISSERTATION,

Read before the Hartford County Medical Society, at its Annual Meeting, April 3, 1857.

BY P. M. HANTINGS, M. D., HARTFORD.

REMARKABLE changes have been gradually taking place in medical literature during the past half century. From being simply the repository of hypotheses, hastily formed to account for isolated phenomena, there is a marked tendency apparent, to neglect theoretical speculations, and to confine itself to the record of carefully observed and accurately noted facts, bearing directly upon the practice of medicine. A medical writer who speculates merely, can hardly secure readers, at the present day, and it seems impossible that any theory, however plausible and beautifully constructed, can ever again control the opinions of the medical world, as did those of Boerhaave and Brown.

The main cause of this improvement in medical literature, may be found in the growth of collateral branches of knowledge and their application to medical science. Chemistry, instead of being confined to the description and analysis of certain articles of the materia medica—as it was in the treasury of many now living—has been applied to the elucidation of the vital functions, with wonderful results. She has not only placed us on a reasonable basis, much that experience had taught us, as true, but has added vastly to our stock of knowledge. The knowledge of the composition of animal tissues, and the conditions of waste and supply, must ever exercise its important influence upon the treatment of disease. Without doubt, we now treat many diseases upon a more rational plan and more successfully, from an acquaintance with the principles or maxims derived from the principles of vital chemistry.

There is an increasing disposition among medical men of the present day, to base diagnosis of disease upon a sound pathology, and important practical results have already been realized. The conceptions entertained by physicians of the changes induced by disease, were often vague and unsatisfactory, and to a certain extent this still remains true. The inability of detecting, in many instances, any morbid change, leaves abundant room for conjecture, a mental condition always to be avoided. We are disposed to look for evidences of change of structure in all fatal cases of disease, and if these are too transient or too minute to be traced, we experience disappointment, and it may be less confidence in the method of treatment pursued. Recent discoveries lead us to hope that this source of uncertainty will be partially, if not wholly removed, ere long.

By improved methods of investigation, we are daily becoming better acquainted with the more delicate tissues of the body, and the hitherto unseen changes induced by disease. We now mark evidence of change of structure, where a few years since, the most skillful pathologist failed. This advance in pathology, is due, in a great measure, to the introduction and improvement of the microscope.

It is to some of the discoveries and the practical value of the microscope, as a means of diagnosis in disease, that I wish to direct your attention for a few minutes to-day.

To one, whose ideas of the microscope were formed a quarter of a century since, it will appear strange, and perhaps very unreasonable, to claim any value for observations made by its instrumentality. But we should bear in mind at the outset of our inquiry, that the microscope of the present day is a very different instrument from that in use even twenty-five years since. After the brilliant discoveries of Ehrenberg and his contemporaries, the microscope fell into undervalued disrepute, on account of errors of misinterpretation of less gifted observers. So great were its imperfections that a prolonged dispute arose in regard to the form of the blood corpuscles—one representing them as globular, another as flat discs, and still another as of irregular shape and size. So perfectly can these bodies be defined, by the modern microscope, that no difference of opinion need be entertained. This may be taken as an illustration of the deficiencies of the old microscope, and the consequent diversity of opinion, leading scientific men to regard it as a beautiful, but useless philosophical toy.

The attention of opticians, however, was directed to the improvement of this instrument, with so much success, that they now claim to have fulfilled all the conditions of the theory of a perfect microscope.

No difference of opinion need now be entertained in reference to what is seen, though the perfection of an instrument can not obviate or prevent the errors of interpretation which will always arise, when men of differently constituted minds view the same object.

Let us take a few instances, wherein our knowledge of the structure and functions of the animal economy has been increased by microscopic investigation. I have already alluded to the extended observations of the blood corpuscles, made at an early period in the history of the microscope. We now know that these play an important part in the history of animal life, as carriers of the oxygen and carbon, essential constituents of the body; that they are of different sizes in the various genera of animals; that they differ in form in the warm and cold blooded; and that they are accompanied by other and larger corpuscles, whose office is probably quite as important. But there is still much to be learned in regard to their origin and ultimate destination, furnishing a highly important and useful field of inquiry. The circulation of the blood can be clearly illustrated by the microscope, in many transparent parts of animals. The changes too, effected in this fluid, in its passage through the minute tissues, are known to take place, while contained in its appropriate vessels, through their pores, and not by escape into the cellular substance. The vessels are so extremely minute in the lungs, (and this is probably true of all parts of the body) that a single series of blood corpuscles is allowed to pass at once, and the changes alluded to, are brought about by the principle of endosmosis and exosmosis. It is probable, that in no instance, do these minute bodies escape from their appropriate vessels, without a solution of continuity. This is known to be the case, in all the secreting and excreting glands.

Perhaps the most splendid, as well as the most important result of microscopic investigation, has been the establishment of the doctrine of the cellular formation of all organized products. It is now settled beyond question, that every part of an organized structure is made up of cells or their products. The cell is regarded as the type of organization, and possesses an individual life, which may enable it to maintain an independent existence and so continue its kind by reproducing individuals like itself to an indefinite extent; or its life may be subordinate to that of the structure to which it belongs, and of which it forms a component part. Starting from this point it is not difficult to trace the origin and mode of formation of most of the complex structures of the animal fabric. It is however, true, that some of the almost tissues of the higher organisms, compel us to have recourse to the

analogy furnished by those of the humble and more simple types of animals, to resolve them satisfactorily.

To my mind, the light thrown upon the difficult subject of generation, furnishes one of the most beautiful illustrations of the value of microscopic investigations of the animal functions. It has been determined, in every instance, where the life history of the more simple forms of animal and vegetable life has been studied, that however prolific they may be, multiplying themselves an hundred fold in a few hours, by the processes of germination or budding and by fission or self-division, there is always a true generative act performed in some period of their lives, thus preserving the species. This act, indeed, is absolutely essential, for a repetition of processes of germination and fission leads to wide departures from the original type and thus specific differences are obliterated—and further, it is known, that among the higher plants, a race soon becomes extinct where circumstances prevent the renewal of the generative act. In many of the simple and transparent organisms above referred to, often consisting of a collection of simple cells, brought together without much apparent order, a cell may be seen, whose office it is to receive the contents of another cell, and to become as a consequence of such union, an individual like its parent. There are various modes in which this union or conjugation is effected. Sometimes it takes place within the body of the parent where both are located, or these two cells may meet after extrusion from the parent, or again the contents of these two may be received by a third cell, which becomes developed while the original cells perish. There can be no question that this process of conjugation, constitutes a true generative act, and is a type of the same function in the higher orders of organized beings. Not unfrequently, these cells, whether of animal or vegetable origin, are endowed with powers of locomotion; and the distinction between ova and sperm cells can generally be made out even among the most minute organisms. Sufficient evidence has been accumulated to establish the principle, that the essential part of the function of generation, consists in the union of two cells of different natures; a principle applicable alike to vegetable and animal propagation. In many of the higher orders of animals, we can not always trace the mode in which, nor the period at which this union is effected. Still we can not doubt its reality. In fishes and reptiles, such union of ova and sperm cells, takes place externally to the body of the parent, either at the moment of extrusion or soon after, and can readily be noted. In the mammalia, the organs of reproduction are

as explained, that it becomes exceedingly difficult and in many instances impossible, to trace the process of fecundation, and we are obliged to be content with the analogy furnished by those of more simple structure, and infer that this union takes place. In these higher orders, we find indeed, the same elements, the ova, which requires the addition of the spermatic fluid for its development. In the sperm of all the higher animals, the microscope reveals the existence of almost innumerable little bodies endowed with active motive powers, which have received the designation of *Spermatozoa*, from the evidence of their distinct animality. Since locomotion has been proved to belong to certain conditions of vegetative life, these bodies are regarded as simply sperm cells, whose contact with the ova are absolutely essential to fecundation. It is difficult to conceive how this contact is brought about in man, since, as far as our knowledge extends, the conditions for the transmission of the sperm cell to the ovary, are in all respects unfavorable; but as fecundation is known to have taken place before the ova reaches the cavity of the uterus, we are forced to the conclusion that such transmission is effected. Still further, we know, that the presence of these sperm cells, is an absolute condition to impregnation, for where the spermatic fluid is destitute of the sperm cells, or where they exist in a mutilated state, the act can not be perfected. It is somewhat singular that the disparity of numbers, between the ova and sperm cells, holds good among the lower, as among the higher orders of animals and plants, the former being comparatively few in number, the latter being furnished almost without limit. After impregnation, the history of the new being forms a topic of very great interest, development being effected by the successive production of cells and their subsequent modifications.

It is not a little remarkable, that between the cell, that increases by self-division, and propagation by cells in all respects like itself, and which never reaches a higher point of development, and that endowed with power of growth to the highest form of animal existence, the microscope can detect no appreciable difference, both consisting of a membranous sac enclosing minute granules. Beyond this point our powers fail, and we must rest content to refer the changes witnessed to that mysterious principle we designate life.

Let us note a few points of the practical bearing of the microscope. In cases of Medical Jurisprudence, that instrument has often been called into use, and its revelations have been received as evi-

dence of high character in courts of justice. In a recent case, which is fresh in the minds of all, it was used to determine the character of blood stains and aided much in narrowing the field of inquiry.

In practical investigations its value in determining the character of secretions of the genito-urinary organs, is generally acknowledged. We often have the ability of locating the particular point from which a discharge emanates, and the value of microscopic examination becomes at once apparent. The forms presented by the epithelial scales from various points of these organs are peculiar. Thus in Spermatorrhoea, the disease may be limited to the prostate gland to the vesiculæ seminales, or to the testes, the epithelial scales accompanying the discharge will often enable us to fix upon the point most affected by disease. In Leucorrhoea, we can by similar means detect the existence of disease of the vagina, the os, the cervix, and the fundus of the uterus. Abnormal urinary secretions are usually accompanied by epithelial scales indicating their origin, these bodies being of different forms in the urethra, neck of the bladder, the fundus and in the uriniferous tubes of the kidney. We detect the presence of sugar in the urine by the rapid development of osmoseoid vegetation, the existence and various forms of urinary calculi, abnormal quantity of inorganic salts, the presence of blood, pus and albumen and in many instances determine the point from which they originate. The various forms of organic disease of the kidney, can often be detected, portions of the new or altered structure being present in the urine.

In diseases of the respiratory organs, the microscope affords valuable aid in diagnosis. Not to mention the presence of blood, and pus in the excretions, the various forms of tubercular disease furnish characteristic microscopic appearances, which have been accurately described. The tubercular cell being an imperfectly developed pus-cell, presenting peculiarities readily made apparent.

The recent discovery of a peculiar parasitic vegetation, termed *ascaris ventriculi*, in the stomach, has led to more satisfactory methods of treatment in some of the most obstinate diseases of this organ.

This instrument has been applied to the diagnosis of tumors, ever a matter of difficulty and debate, with the most experienced surgeons. It is claimed by one class of observers, that a true cancer cell can always be detected in malignant tumors; its various forms have been accurately delineated, and great reliance has been, and is still, placed upon its discovery. Others, deny the existence of a distinctive cancer cell, and assert that here the microscope is wholly at fault.

From a somewhat careful examination of these opposing views, I am inclined to believe, that in very many cases of doubt, certainty can be attained by microscopic investigation. While in regard to other cases, our knowledge is as yet insufficient for the formation of positive opinions. But there is certainly reason for hoping that more extended observations will render clear, many, if not all the difficulties, attending the diagnosis of tumors. The conclusions arrived at by the earlier and more sanguine microscopists, have frequently been found erroneous by more careful observers, but since the introduction of improved instruments into all the principal hospitals of the civilized world, we may confidently expect valuable results. In regard to fatty and hydatid tumors, where doubt of their character exists, the microscope can readily be called in aid with satisfactory results, the matter drawn by an exploratory needle being sufficient for its purposes.

The microscope has further shown that many of the most obstinate skin diseases, are due to the presence of minute animals, and such knowledge has led to certain methods of cure. In others, parasitic vegetations have been discovered, and experiment has indicated modes of eradication.

Not to multiply examples, the fact that the microscope is in daily use throughout all parts of the civilized world, as a means of diagnosis, and that new discoveries are constantly being unhoarded, bearing upon the causes of disease, must be received as strong evidence of its value. While it does not usurp the place of the stethoscope, or speculum, means furnished by modern science, we must claim for it a position of equal value. But unlike these instruments, it has a more extensive range, and can not fail of attaining a higher rank as a means of diagnosis.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES,

OF PHYSICIANS DYING DURING 1856-57.

DR. ELI HALL.

By WILLIAM W. BOWEN, M.D.

ELI HALL was born in East Hartford, on the eighth of October, 1785. He received his academic education in Lester, Massachusetts, and pursued his medical studies with his father Dr. Timothy Hall, a prominent practitioner of the time, Dr. Griswold of the same place, and with Dr. Cogswell of Hartford. He attended lectures at Hanover, New Hampshire, where he graduated, and after residing in East Hartford, about a year, removed to Blanford, Mass., where he continued until about 1838, when he returned to his native place.

In Blanford, as I learn, he was the principal practitioner, and did a large business, and though it was arduous and laborious, yet he enjoyed excellent health. He had uniformly the confidence and respect of the community, who appreciated his good sense, and his quiet, unobtrusive manners, and parted with him with reluctance when he left for another field of labor.

When his father died he returned to East Hartford, and was soon in full business. Though never absent for a great length of time, yet he often made visits of pleasure to his different friends, or to his former residence in Massachusetts, and these excursions he enjoyed greatly, in affording him relaxation, and opportunities of social intercourse. The last year or two of his life he was troubled with enlargement of the prostate gland, and visited but few patients after October, 1855. He lingered through the winter and spring, able to take but little amusement, and becoming extremely emaciated, until the eighth of June, 1856, when he died.

Dr. Hall was a man of remarkable gentleness, and equanimity of temper; of much moderation, he was inclined to take a favorable impression of men and things, joining in condemnation with reluctance, or seeking to soften it with excuses. Hence there was in him little of boldness of character, or of novelties in practice, and he was content to tread in those good old paths of his predecessors, whose lights, if they were less brilliant than some of those of modern days, perhaps effected quite as much for humanity. His common sense was excellent, and this, with his modesty, and retiring, unobtrusive disposition, formed the chief traits in his character. His medical knowledge was respectable, his discrimination of disease was good, and his treatment, though not heroic, was not expectant. Contented as he was, he was not likely to err in any matters by going to either extreme, and was content if the patient did not die from any efforts of his own, as well as from a failure of them.

He was lovely in his family, affording his children the advantages of a good education, and was loved and respected by them. Though losing several by death, and watching them with anxiety during long sicknesses, he yet bore his afflictions with patience and resignation, as became him. His Christian character led him to receive with thankfulness the blessings bestowed upon him, to bear with resignation the ills of this life, and to endeavor to live in peace and charity with all men.

In the community in which he lived, he was loved and respected, as a kind physician and as a quiet man; with the physicians he stood well, enjoying the respect of his neighbors and acquaintances, and thus passed the last days of his life, well spent in the enjoyment of much happiness and the practice of good works. Social, benevolent in his feelings, kind and amiable in his manners, he passed through nearly seventy-three years, with quite as much of happiness and respect as falls to the lot of most men, and died leaving a pleasant memory behind him.

HARTFORD, APRIL, 1857.

DR. SYLVESTER BULKLEY.

BY HYPER M. BRIDGEMAN, M. D.

SYLVESTER BULKLEY was the second son of Hosea Bulkley, of Rocky Hill, (formerly a part of Wethersfield,) in which place he was born in 1787. He was prepared for college by Rev. Calvin Chapin, D. D., of Rocky Hill, entered Yale in 1806, and graduated in 1810. The following winter he taught school in Wethersfield, meantime pursuing the study of medicine under the instruction of Dr. Daniel Fuller, of Rocky Hill. He then attended lectures in the medical department of Dartmouth College, Hanover, N. H., and received the degree of M. D., at that institution, in 1812. Dr. Bulkley first commenced the practice of his profession in Haddam, where he remained about eight years, when he disposed of his business to a Dr. Munger, and went to Chester. There he remained but a short time, when he returned to that part of Haddam known as Higganstown, in professional connection with Dr. Munger. A more favorable offer presenting itself, Dr. B. located in Upper Middletown, (now Cromwell,) where he remained in successful practice for about twelve years. He then relinquished his business in that place, and after spending a few months in New York and its neighborhood, availing himself of the facilities for acquiring medical knowledge there afforded, he returned and settled in Berlin. In that town he continued until 1848, when Rocky Hill being left without a resident physician, by the removal of Dr. A. W. Barrows to Hartford, Dr. Bulkley returned to his native place. Here he continued in the practice of his profession until within a few days of his death, though age and its consequent infirmities restricted the amount of his business for the latter part of the time.

Dr. Bulkley was of a robust habit of body, and of vigorous constitution, and had good health, with the exception of attacks of rheumatism, which is hereditary in his family. In consequence, probably, of exposure and over exertion in visiting a patient, in the severe weather of the season, he was taken sick the twenty-seventh of January last, and died the first of February, in the seventieth year of his age. His disease was an acute inflammation of that portion of the peritoneum covering the liver, which probably extended to the liver itself. For the first three days of his illness, Dr. Bulkley expected to recover, and his physician thought him improving; but after this he passed

into a state of total insensibility, and sank rapidly. He was attended by Dr. A. S. Warner, of Wethersfield, and once seen by Dr. E. K. Hunt, of Hartford, and myself. Dr. B. was a member of the Hartford County Medical Society at the time of his decease, and had always felt a lively interest in all efforts for the promotion of the profession.

Dr. Bulkley was an honest man, upright and straightforward in his dealings, an active and excellent member of society, of high moral character and correct habits of life, enjoying the esteem of his neighbors and acquaintances, and a sincere professing Christian. He became a member of the Congregational Church in Berlin, during his residence in that town, and continued his connection there till his death, though an attendant on divine worship at Rocky Hill, after his removal thither.

As a physician, Dr. Bulkley enjoyed a liberal patronage in the several localities where he resided. He stood well in the estimation of his brethren of the medical profession, and was on particularly confidential terms and often in consultation over the sick-bed with the late Drs. Richard Warner, of Cromwell, and Archibald Welch, of Wethersfield. Naturally of a strong mind and independent character, he had little disposition to yield to the foolish whims of his patients, when he saw that yielding would be prejudicial to their recovery; and his refusal to gratify them in this respect, sometimes made enemies of those who should have had the greater regard for him for his firmness of purpose in their behalf. Considerations of policy, which often stand next in stead of sound medical knowledge; subterfuge in conversation, which is a cover for professional ignorance; civility of manner, which hides defects in the practice of medicine,—upon these Dr. Bulkley did not altogether rely, to gain the esteem of the families in which he practiced. He expected to benefit his patients, rather by the potency of his remedies than by the grace of his talk; by the efficacy of his prescriptions, rather than by the ease of his conversation. Consequently, those who call a physician more for the purpose of having their diagnosis confirmed, and their views of the proper treatment supported by him, than for the sake of his medical advice and care, and who dislike him in proportion as he disagrees with their notions, often complained of Dr. B. when they would have done better to listen willingly to his counsel, and adhere trustingly to his orders. With quacks and quackery he had no patience, and quite as little with those who followed them. Of "steam doctors," "consumption doctors," and other like impostors, he entertained a great abhorrence

and contempt; and with the various fads in medicine, that from time to time spring up to have a mushroom existence, he would have nothing to do. Correctly considering a proper medical education as indispensably necessary to the proper practice of the profession, and that the science must have a stable theory based upon known facts for its foundation, in order to be deserving confidence, Dr. Buckley had no part with those who "take up" the trade without a thorough training in the various fundamental branches of the profession, and would have no counsel with interlopers, who had no other title to be called doctors than that bestowed by themselves alone.

Dr. Buckley lived to a ripe old age, in the enjoyment of respect and esteem, performing his duties as a man and a physician, modestly, faithfully and honestly, and was gathered to his fathers in peace, like a shock of wheat fully ripe for the harvest.

ROCKY HILL, April 28, 1857.

SANITARY REPORT FROM HARTFORD.

BY GORDON W. RUSSELL, M. D.

4

THE deaths in the town of Hartford, for the year 1853, were, including stillbirths, 325, which, in a population of 25,000, would make about one in 80. Of these, 162 were males, and 163 were females; and occurring during the five first years of life, 140, of which 55 were males and 85 were females. There were deaths from consumption, 54, from Marasmus, 9; the deaths from the former amount to one in 6 of the whole number.

I have made no classification of the deaths which have occurred, except those of a zymotic character, termed endemic, epidemic or contagious. These amount in number to 70, being a little over one in 3½, and are classified as follows:

| | |
|----------------------|----|
| Scarlet Fever, | 4 |
| Measles, | 8 |
| Whooping Cough, | 7 |
| Cholera, | |
| Cholera Infantum, | 10 |
| Croup, | 14 |
| Diarrhoea, | 11 |
| Dysentery, | 7 |
| Erysipelas, | |
| Fever, Intermittent, | |
| + Remittent, | |
| + Typhus, | 10 |
| Influenza, | |
| Small-pox, | |
| Syphilis, | 1 |
| Thrush, | |
| Total, | 70 |
| 9 | |

The mortality of this class of diseases is usually considered a pretty correct indication of the sanitary condition of any place, and is favorable as regards Hartford. The number of deaths and the amount of sickness has been by no means large, and tends to confirm the impressions generally received, that the past year has been comparatively a healthy one.

In looking at the above table it will be perceived that there has been some deaths from diseases considered as contagious; thus, from *Scarlet Fever* there has been 4. This prevailed mostly during the latter part of the year; the cases were generally mild, and few in number. In some instances, the urticarous symptoms were troublesome, and were perhaps as well relieved by stimulating applications, internally or externally, or by the frequent use of emetics, as by other measures. These last remedies, operating upon the disease by their revulsive power, and cleansing the throat more effectually than can be done in any other manner, exercise a most beneficial influence, and but irritate that spontaneous vomiting which so often occurs at the commencement or during the progress of the disease.

Of *Measles* there has been 3 deaths. This disease commenced during the latter period of the year, and was for some weeks mostly confined to the northern part of the town. Speaking of it, as continuing to the present time, it has been very extensive in its duration, and yet not of a very bad type. Most of the deaths which have occurred have been from pneumonia, either during the progress, or subsequent to the original disease. Aside from this special complication, most cases have done well upon mild remedies. I can not omit to notice here the unfavorable influence manifested by the early use of stimulating diaphoretics, or active cathartics. Under the impression that the eruption ought, upon the accession of the disease, immediately to make its appearance, the friends have been apt to drench the patients with milk punch, or warm drinks of various kinds, hoping to force out the eruption, not knowing that the disease must run a certain progress before this will close itself, and by this active interference have often so increased the inflammatory state of the system, that some organ has become especially affected; or else have purged violently, and thus bringing on a diarrhea, or lowering the tone of the body by a violent shock, have rendered the eruption tardy in its appearance, and the disease imperfectly developed. In these instances, complications, though not always occurring, may be looked for. The disease is one specially of the skin, though attended with constitutional symptoms.

and if it can be made to spend its violence externally, it is at the relief of the internal organs, and with not much danger to the patient.

Several well-authenticated cases of Measles, occurring for the second time, have been witnessed. This is nothing new to the profession, but should be improved by us with the public, in showing that this disease may occur more than once.

Hooping Cough prevailed during the latter half of the year, and there were eleven deaths reported from this cause.

These three diseases, measles, scarlatina and hooping cough, were present during the latter part of the year, and were followed in time by variola, showing that epidemics are very apt to follow or accompany one another, particularly those affecting the skin.

No deaths are reported as having occurred from small-pox, though it made its appearance first, sometime in December, and continues to the present time, being the most extensive epidemic of this character which has prevailed here for many years.

In connection with this subject, I trust that I may be allowed to make some remarks upon Vaccination. I am afraid that there is an increasing impression with the public against the utility of this operation, for parents are not only negligent in seeing that it is done for their children, but are also found to protest against it, on the grounds of its inefficiency, as well as from the fear of disease being communicated by it. As regards its inefficiency, there are no grounds for believing it, if we will examine the whole subject with care, and do not expect too much from it. Jenner himself found that some of his patients who had been vaccinated, were seized with a mild disease similar to variola, when exposed to it, and began to distrust its perfect protective power, thinking that too much might have been claimed for it at the first. Now, this is probably the true view to take of it; too much has been claimed for it; that it is not an absolute protection from variola, as our experience shows us that some, although thoroughly vaccinated, will have a modified but not dangerous form of this disease. Let us therefore be content with what we can gain, not claiming more for this invaluable discovery than the facts will warrant, nor holding out to the public any uncertain expectations, but state it just as it is, and rejoice that by it mortality has been much diminished, or that if a modified form of the disease does occur, it is shorn of much of its terrors.

But there is a more serious view of this subject, which immediately concerns ourselves. Do we always perform this operation, holding in view the magnitude of its importance, the necessity of

doing it well, and the propriety of witnessing the progress of the vaccine vesicle during its different stages. I am afraid not; but that it may be too hurriedly performed, or looked after but once, in its commencing stages, when a careless eye might fail to discriminate between a true and spurious vesicle. We ought, therefore, I earnestly advise, to see it at different times during its continuance, to ascertain whether there are constitutional symptoms or not, and to see if the operation has made not a sore alone, but a sore of a specific character, which has its rise, progress and decline, duly marked and noted, which are special and peculiar attributes of this disease, as much so as are the special and peculiar symptoms of *scarlatina*, *measles*, or *typhus*; peculiar to these diseases. For my own part, I entertain the opinion that the vaccine disease is not a whit modified or changed from what it was in the time of Jenner, and that its protection, if properly produced, is just as perfect as it was then, though I admit that it does not perform all that its advocates then claimed for it, or that may have been claimed for it in later years. There is no more reason to suppose that vaccine has changed, than that *rubeola* itself has changed, or *scarlatina*, or *variola*: the distinctive characters which mark these diseases are the same now as ever, and will be transmitted the same through generations to come: some of the concomitant peculiarities, or the attendant type may be modified; one epidemic may be more malignant than another, or some symptoms may exist at one time which is hardly apparent at another, but the disease itself is unchanged. *Variola* continues to be *variola*, and *scarlatina* continues to be *scarlatina*: the essential points are the same.

I may state in connection with this, that the propriety of using the scab or crust for vaccination, instead of the lymph taken about the sixth or seventh day, may well be doubted: not but that a good crust, consisting of hardened lymph, will not equally communicate the disease, but the difficulties and uncertainty of obtaining a crust consisting of lymph alone, becomes an objection; frequently the vesicle is broken, and the lymph nearly discharged, or in consequence of inflammation the crust consists in part of dried pus or semi-purulent matter which may produce a sore, but not always a vaccine vesicle, and which, if carefully examined on the fifth day, may be thought to be a genuine one.

And here I may be allowed to suggest the propriety of testing all cases of primary vaccination; this would afford a sure and perfect guarantee of the protection given by the first. It is attended, I admit, with some trouble, but if the fee is not already remunerative, it

should be made so. I know now that it is already the poorest business which is done, and hence the complaint which physicians make in regard to it, and the neglect which it meets often at their hands. But the public should be informed of the importance of it, and of the necessity of witnessing it during its different stages, and would doubtless here as in other cases, be willing to pay a fee which should be sufficiently satisfactory. Why, our very conduct shows it to be a trifling thing; it is done in a moment, and we are off, perhaps never see the patient again, perhaps see him at an uncertain or indefinite period.

The necessity of viewing the patient after revaccination is, I contend, also apparent: if this operation has any importance or efficacy attached to it, it is worth doing well, and looking after when it is done, and this brings me to the subject of *revaccination*, or testing the first operation; but as this opens a broad field, and this paper is getting far beyond the length which I intended, I will make now but a few remarks. That it is a necessary operation, protecting the system already wholly or partially exposed, is, I believe, generally admitted, though still denied by some of the profession. I confess I have rarely seen a perfect vesicle in a secondary vaccination, when there was already a well defined, pitted scar from the first. I have occasionally seen near approaches to it, varying however, in the constitutional symptoms, in the appearance of the areole, and of the sore, in the time of its continuance, and of the attendant inflammation: some of the profession, I know, are reported to have seen it frequently, but I have not been so fortunate; the nearest approach to it which I have seen this season was in a lady of at least sixty years of age, who had been inoculated with variolous matter in Scotland when a child.

Of course the crust that is formed during these revaccinations, should never be used for the purpose of producing the vaccine disease; it might occasionally answer for the purpose, and of course it would do so when it had formed a genuine vesicle, but these instances are so rare that it is safe to lay it down as a rule that it should never be used.

I am satisfied that variola is upon the increase, and for years to come will continue to increase, until public necessity shall compel a resort to careful, general, and repeated vaccination; the time may not yet have arrived, when by public authority every child shall be vaccinated before it is three months of age, but when this febrile disease shall have become more common, every one perceiving the increase of it, then may we expect such a commutation, and that the law will not

be a dead letter. I have heard in a number of instances where the crust formed after a vaccination in an adult, has been used for the purpose of producing the vaccine disease in infants, by unprofessional persons. Although a cure may have been made, it is by no means sure that it will afford protection against variola, where the patient is exposed to it, and this I suspect is the explanation of some of the cases which have occurred in this town during the present epidemic.

There is an interesting portion of this subject, itself a base sufficient for a lengthy dissertation, viz.: upon the communicability of disease by vaccination: this demands careful and thorough investigation, both to satisfy ourselves, and quiet the public feeling, which is strongly inclined to believe in its truth. Without denying the possibility of it, I am still somewhat skeptical as to its frequent occurrence, though cutaneous disease may occur after its performance, and be the indirect result of it, no vaccination often develops any tendency to disease of the skin, which may be present in the system. I do not now recollect but one instance in which I have witnessed any cutaneous eruption to have followed vaccination this season: this was eczematous in its character, and appeared about the tenth or twelfth day of the operation, in an eruption behind the ears and upon the lower part of the scalp; the child was teething at the time, which was enough in my opinion to account for it; and that it was owing to this, and not the matter, was shown by its being used in quite a number of instances, before and afterwards, without any such result being produced. If physicians would make a careful record of all such cases that come under their notice, a mass of information would be obtained, which would enable us to dispel many of the illusions of the public.

Of course the popular notion that vaccination should be done at every certain and defined period of one's life, is altogether wrong; there can, with reason, be no such course marked out; but if the operation was done during infancy, it is certainly proper that it should be repeated after the subject has grown up. If any thing farther than this is done, it must be so much to satisfy the wishes and quiet the fears of the timid, as to comply with any rule indicated by reason or experience.

In regard to the sanitary measures of the town, I may say that they are improving; sewers are being constantly built, and although expensive, are of vast importance. The free and liberal use of the Connecticut river water is increasing, and our citizens are beginning to appreciate the great importance of its introduction. Its use for domestic purposes is extending, as it will for building, unless men are

deferred from it by the expensive apparatus, or the action sometimes overdone that it is an operation necessary to be performed for the whole body every day. There is an immense amount of lumbering connected by enthusiasm, with this matter of bathing, that will be exploded by and by, when men come to see that they may use water rationally, without converting themselves into amphibious animals.

HARTFORD, APRIL, 1857.

Dr. Weaver, of Wiltresfield, reports "a year of remarkable health." Hooping cough prevailed, but to no great extent.

Dr. Griswold, of Rocky Hill, reports that "the amount of sickness was much less than usual, and the number of deaths smaller than before in many years. There were no epidemics of any kind, until the latter part of the year, when measles began to prevail extensively, and have continued into the present year. We had a few cases of scarlet fever, but the disease was of a mild character and was easily managed."

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